PUBLISHED MONTHLY—PRICE ANNAS 8
THE INDIAN RAILWAY
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
THE BEST AND MOST COMPLETE GUIDE IN INDIA.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats and Daks, Places of Interest—Inland and along the Coast—Postal and Telegraphic Information, &c., &c., with a
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
The Bombay Gazette Press, Fort, Bombay.

PUBLISHED THRICE DAILY.

THE Bombay Gazette. MORNING EDITION.

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No. 53,991.—NEW SERIES.] BOMBAY:—FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1907. [PRICE: ONE ANNA.

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PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

LIST OF DEPARTURES FROM BOMBAY FOR MARSEILLES & LONDON

WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Date of Sailing. Saturday P. M. 1907.	Steamers.	Tons.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons
5th Jan.	PERSIA	7951		
12th "	ORIENTAL	5284	VICTORIA	6522
19th "	CALEDONIA	7558		
26th "	EGYPT	7912	CHINA	7912
2nd Feb.	OCEANA	6610		
9th "	ORIENTAL	5284	INDIA	7911
16th "	EGYPT	7912		
23rd "	PENINSULAR	8294	MONGOLIA	8905
2nd Mar.	ARABIA	7903		
9th "	ORIENTAL	5284	BRITANNIA	6626
16th "	PERSIA	7951		
23rd "	PENINSULAR	8294	MARMORA	10502
30th "	CALEDONIA	7558		
6th Apr.	* MACEDONIA	10819		
13th "	CHINA	7912		
20th "	PENINSULAR	8294	MOLDAVIA	9800
27th "	EGYPT	7912		
4th May	ORIENTAL	5284	HIMALAYA	6809
11th "	ARABIA	7903		
18th "	PENINSULAR	8294	VICTORIA	6522
26th "	PERSIA	7951		

* Similar to the preceding and following steamer, the S. S. "MACEDONIA," sailing on the 6th April will proceed direct to Marseilles and London.

The above Steamers convey Passengers to Marseilles, Plymouth and London.

Passengers for Brindisi transhipped to a connecting steamer at Port Said.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON, the day previous to sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage labelled with port of destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 12 and 12-30 P.M., for Medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's Steam Barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of Passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

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The Company's Steamers leave Bombay fortnightly, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the Straits, China and Japan, and Return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

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BOMBAY, 21*st December*, 1906.

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COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES.

Vessels	Tons.	Captains.	To Sail on THURSDAY
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Rebufat	24th Jan. 1907.
NERA	5,576	Schmitz	21st Feb. "
DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	21st Mar. "
SYDNEY	4,118	Combe	18th Apr. "
ARMAND BEHIC	6,388	Guionnet	16th May "
VILLE de la CIOTAT	6,378	Combe	13th June "
NERA	5,576	Schmitz	11th July "
DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	8th Aug. "

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS.

RETURN TICKETS can be made available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares

TO AUSTRALIA DIRECT AND THE FAR EAST, TRANSHIPPING AT COLOMBO.

Vessel	Tons.	Captain	To Sail on or about
DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	5th Jan 1907.
SYDNEY	4,118	Bazagnan	2nd Feb. "

For further Particulars apply to

P. DE BURE,
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Esplanade Road, BOMBAY.

AUSTRIAN UNDER MAIL THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co, CONTRACT WITH GOVERNMENT.

DIRECT LINE TO TRIESTE VIA BRINDISI.

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on
BOHEMIA	4282	M. Dabcevich	1st February.
IMPERATOR	4140	J. Mosca	16th February.
KORBEK	5301	A. Foresti	1st March.
IMPERATRIX	4213	G. Ghezzo	16th March.
AFRICA	4396	P. Radesich	1st April.
IMPERATOR	4140	J. Mosca	16th April.
KORBEK	5301	A. Foresti	1st May.
BOHEMIA	4282	M. Dabcevich	16th May.
AFRICA	4396	P. Radesich	1st June.

ORDINARY LINE TO TRIESTE.

Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on or about.
GISELA	4260	D. Mandich	10th January.
* † F. FERDINAND	8018	A. Matcovich	24th January.
* † CHINA	5299	R. Craglietto	3rd March.
* † AUSTRIA	7585	A. Bilafer	3rd April.
* † VORWAERTS	5990	R. Colledani	2nd May.
PERSIA	8038	P. Craglietto	25th May.

* Will call at Karachi. † Will call at Finme.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE, VENICE, and Brindisi are available for two years.

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1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards and other Routes.

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Steamers.	Tons	Captain.	To sail on or about.
VORWAERTS	5990	R. Colledani	28th January.
PERSIA	8095	P. Craglietto	24th February.

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FOR KARACHI.

Weekly from Victoria Dock Wall No. 14 Shed.

Steamer.	Tons.	Sailing Date.	Time.	Route.—Via.
LINGA	3,170	Mon. 7th Jan.	11 a.m.	P. D. & C.*
DUMRA	1,700	Thur. 10th Jan.	9 a.m.	Cutch Mandvie.
LHASA	3,170	Frid. 4th Jan.	6 p.m.	(direct).*

* Via Porebunder, Dwarka and Cutch Mandvie.

FOR KARACHI AND PERSIAN GULF (Weekly).

S. S. "WAROONGA," 2,512, tons, on MONDAY, 7th Jan. calling at Karachi, Pasni, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Lingg, Bahrein, Bushire, Mahomera and Busreh.

FOR KARACHI AND BUSREH (Weekly).

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,700 tons, on THURSDAY, 10th Jan. calling (for Mails and Passengers) at Muscat, Bushire, and Mahomera, also taking Passengers and cargo on through bookings to Ahwaz and Bagdad.

FOR COAST PORTS AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "WARORA," 3,980 tons, on or about 4th Jan.

FOR EAST AFRICA.

Steamers	Tons.	Sailing	Ports of call
NERBUDDA	3023	4th Jan.	Zanzibar, Mombasa, Lamu.
NUDDEA	3009	13th Jan.	Aden Mombasa, Zanzibar.

FOR RANGOON OR CALCUTTA (Direct).

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D. BALDUINO	4,580	O. Canepa	15th Jan. 1907
R. RUBATTINO	4,580	M. Saporiti	19th Feb. "

RATES TO THE ABOVE PORTS INCLUSIVE OF WINE AND BEER.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.
Single tickets	Rs. 600	Rs. 350	Rs. 165
Return tickets available two years	" 900	" 525	

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BOMBAY TO SINGAPORE AND HONGKONG.

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CAPRI	6,000	G. Belsito	17th Jan. 1907.
ISCHIA	6,000	G. Dodero	17th Feb. "

Excellent accommodation. SALOON Fares to SINGAPORE, and to HONGKONG Rs. 220.

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NOVEMBER, 20TH 1906.
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	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Suez	400	640	320	480	300	450
Port Said	425	680	340	510	325	490
Marseilles or Genoa	52	850	450	770	390	590
Liverpool	550	900	470	720	420	640
London via Marseilles (overland.)	600	†950	525	*770	450	*675
Karachi	40	..	40	...	40	..

† Return journey from Liverpool, but if outward bound steamer calls at Marseilles, return journey from London Rs. 1000.
* Return journey from Liverpool only.
The following Sailings are subject to alterations :—

Class.	Steamer.	Tons.	Sailing from Liverpool.	Due a Port Said about.	Due Bombay about.	Leave Bombay.
					1907	1907.
†	City of Carthage	5,524	Nov. 27	Dec. 2	Jan. 1	Jan. 8
†	Worcely Hall	3,489	Dec. 5	" 18	" 31	" 15
†	City of Agra	4,808	" 19	" 31	" 15	" 15
			1907	1907		
†*	City of Manchester	5,551	Jan. 2	Jan. 13	" 24	" 31
§	Trafford Hall	5,321	" 12	" 23	Feb. 3	Feb. 10
†	City of Edinburgh	6,253	" 26	Feb. 7	" 19	" 26
‡	City of Bombay	4,548	Feb. 2	" 14	" 28	Marc 25
†	Aston Hall	3,627	" 11	" 24	Marc 9	" 24

Constitute the Express Service.
Does not carry Surgeon and Stewardess.
‡Carries also second saloon passengers.
All steamers marked thus ‡ will not go via Karachi but go direct to Liverpool Via Marseilles.

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KAISER	2734	von Holdt	11th Jan 1907
* GENERAL	2361	Muhlbauer	25th " "

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The Bank receives Deposits on the following terms:—

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 2 per cent. on the daily balance if not under Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000. Sums over Rs. 1,00,000 will be received on terms to be ascertained on application.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Rates for Fixed deposits for 12 months and shorter period to be ascertained on application.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody, realising interest and dividends when due.

JAMES MURDOCH,
ESPLANADE ROAD BOMBAY *Manag*

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	£	1,200,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL	£	600,000
RESERVE FUND	£	575,000

HEAD OFFICE:
7, BISHOPSGATE STREET WITHIN, LONDON, E

BRANCHES:

Calcutta.	Delhi.	Cawnpore.	Tuticorin
Lahore.	Bombay.	Colombo.	Zanzibar.
Amritsar	Madras.	Mandalay.	Mombasa
Kurrachee.	Rangoon.	Newera Elya.	Nairobi.
Steamer Point.	Aden.	Kandy.	Chittagong
Entebbe.			

FIXED DEPOSITS.—The Bank receives DEPOSITS FIXED for one year and shorter periods, at Rates of Interest to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE, payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, Africa, and Australia, purchased or collected.

DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe, Africa, America, and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody, realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

ROBERT R. ROSS,
BOMBAY. *Manager.*

SPECIAL OFFER.

COMMERCIAL ENVELOPES.—"Gazette Special No. 1" at Rs. 2-12 per thousand: if printed on flap, Rs. 4 per thousand. "Gazette special No. 3" at Rs. 3-12 per thousand: if printed on flap Rs. 5 per thousand. Samples on application at "THE BOMBAY GAZETTE," Office.

BANKS.

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

HEAD OFFICE: NEW YORK.

FISCAL AGENTS FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CHINA AND THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Capital paid up	Gold	$3,250,000·00
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits	Gold	$3,393,686·38

LONDON OFFICE: Threadneedle House, Bishopgate Str. Within, E.C.

BRANCHES:

Bombay.	Manila.	Singapore.
Calcutta.	City of Mexico.	San Francisco.
HongKong.	Shangai	Washington, D.C
Kobe.	Yokohama.	Canton.
Cebu.	Penang.	Monterey.
	Panama.	

THE CORPORATION buys and sells Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit, and carries on every description of Banking and Exchange business.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS opened, and FIXED DEPOSITS received for 12 months or shorter periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

F. H. SUTTON,
Manager

BOMBAY OFFICE.
42/48 Church Gate Street

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

CORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL	£800,000
RESERVE FUND	£975,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS	£800,000

HEAD OFFICE
HATTON COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES:

Hamburg.	Medan, Deli (Sumatra).		Foochow.
Bombay.			Saigon.
Karachi.	Singapore.		Shanghai.
Calcutta.	Kuala Lumpor.		Tientsin.
Madras.	Bangkok.		Hankow.
Rangoon.	Batavia.		Yokohama.
Colombo.	Sourabaya.		Kobe.
Penang.	Manilla.		New York.
Thaiping (Perak).	Cebu (Philippines).		
Ipoh (Perak).	Hongkong.		

THE CORPORATION grant DRAFTS on the above Agencies and Branches, and also on the Principal Commercial Cities throughout the world; buy and receive for collection BILLS OF EXCHANGE; issue TRAVELLING LETTERS OF CREDIT; and undertake general Banking Business of every description.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.—Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on the minimum Monthly Balances if not under Rs. 1,000 and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000, but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half yearly.

Amounts above Rs. 1,00,000 will be received on terms which may be ascertained upon application.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, STOCKS, and SHARES bought and sold on account of clients, and also received for safe custody and collection of Interest and Dividends when due.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for twelve months and shorter periods at rates to be ascertained on application.

OFFICE HOURS—10-30 A.M. to 4 P.M.
Saturdays—10-30 A.M. to 2 P.M.

GEORGE MILLER,
ESPLANADE ROAD, BOMBAY. *Agent.*

ALLIANCE BANK OF SIMLA, LD.

CAPITAL (Paid up)	Rs. 15,00,000
RESERVE FUND (in Government Paper)	Rs. 20,30,000

HEAD OFFICE: SIMLA.

BRANCHES:

Calcutta, Bombay

PUBLIC NOTIFICATIONS.

POSTAL NOTICE.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CIVIL CAMPS AT AGRA ON THE OCCASION OF THE AMIR'S VISIT.

SPECIAL POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS have been made for the Civil Camps to be formed at Agra on the occasion of the visit of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan.

2. Articles intended for delivery at any of the Civil Camps should be addressed as follows :—

X. Y.,
(Designation, etc.,)
(Name of Camp)
AMIR'S CONCENTRATION.

The word "Agra" should not be added to the address.

C. STEWART-WILSON,
Director-General of the Post Office of India.
CALCUTTA, THE 29TH DECEMBER, 1906.

ELLERMAN LINE OF STEAMERS,
(CITY AND HALL LINES,)
HOMEWARD SAILINGS.

THE S. S. "CITY OF BOMBAY" will LEAVE BOMBAY for MARSEILLES and LIVERPOOL on the 21st March, 1907. The S. S. "CITY of LONDON" is expected to LEAVE BOMBAY for MARSEILLES and LIVERPOOL on the 16th April, 1907. Berths can be now engaged for former, and names registered pending arrival of plans, for the latter. Apply to,

KILLICK, NIXON & CO.

THE S. S. "CITY OF KARACHI" is expected TO SAIL from Bombay direct for MARSEILLES or GENOA and LIVERPOOL on or about the 15th January, 1907. For further particulars re passage money etc. apply to

KILLICK, NIXON & Co.,
Bombay.

UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,
WAUDBY ROAD, BOMBAY.

THE REV. DR. CUTHBERT HALL
OF NEW YORK
WILL PREACH in the above Church,
ON SUNDAY EVENING,
6th JANUARY, at 6-30 P.M., (S.T.)

THE BOMBAY STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.
NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

NOTICE is hereby given that an AD-INTERIM DIVIDEND for the half year ending 31st December, 1906, at the rate of Rs. 7-8-0 per preference share and Rs. 7-8-0 per ordinary share (on which Income-tax has been paid,) will be made payable at the Registered Office of the Company, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay, on and after Monday, the 21st January, 1907, to those shareholders, whose names stand on the register on the 20th day of December, 1906, on production of their Share Certificates.

By order of the Board,
KILLICK, NIXON & Co.,
Agents.
APOLLO STREET,
Dated 27th December 1906.

NOTICE.

DURING my ABSENCE from Bombay with effect from 1st January, 1907, Mr. C. A. R CROMMELIN will act as AGENT, B. B. and C. I. Railway.

A. D. G. SHELLEY, Major, R. E.
Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway.

NOTICE.

WE HAVE THIS DAY ADMITTED Mr. ELLICE VICTOR EDWARD SASSOON a PARTNER in our Firms in England, India and China.

E. D. SASSOON & CO.,
BOMBAY, 1ST JANUARY, 1907.

BARROWS-HASKELL LECTURES.
BOMBAY, JANUARY 5—12, 1907.
On the Foundation of the Barrows-Haskell Lectureship
DR. CHARLES CUTHBERT HALL,
(President of Union Theological Seminary, New York City,
WILL DELIVER A COURSE OF
SIX LECTURES
IN THE WILSON COLLEGE HALL,
AT 6 P.M.

1. SATURDAY, JANUARY 5th :—"Elements of Sublimity in the Or ental Consciousness." Chairman :—The Hon. Mr. J. W. F. Muir-MacKenzie C. S. I.
2. MONDAY, JAN.7th :—"The Mystical Element in the Christian Religion." Chairman :—The Hon. Mr. Justice Chandavarkar.
3. TUESDAY, JAN. 8th :—"The Witness of God in the Soul." Chairman :—Sir Jamsetjee Jijibhai, Bart.
4. WEDNESDAY, JAN.9th :—"The Witness of the Soul to God. Chairman :—The Hon. Sir Lawrence Jenkins, K.C.I. E.
5. FRIDAY, JAN. 11th :—"The distinctive Moral Grandeur of the Christian Religion." Chairman :—The Hon. Dr. R. G. Bhandarkar, C. I. E.
6. SATURDAY, JAN. 12th :—"The Ministry of the Oriental Consciousness in a world-wide Kingdom of Christ." Chairman :—Rev. D. Macklchan, D.D., LL D.

ADMISSION FREE: but RESERVED SEAT TICKETS (a single Ticket admitting to a Reserved Seat at all the Lectures) may be obtained, price Rs. 2 each, at Messrs. JAYAKAR BROTHERS, General Merchants, 659-61, Girgaum Road, or at Messrs. ROSE & Co., Rampart Row, Fort, or at the door of the Hall.

The LECTURES are being arranged by a Committee consisting of the Hon. Mr. Justice CHANDAVARKAR, Rev. Dr. MACKICHAN, Mr. K. NATARAJAN, the Hon. Mr. GOKALDAS K. PAREKH, the Hon. Mr. H. E. E. PROCTER, Sir JAMSETJI JIJIBHAI, the Hon. Mr. VITHALDAS D. THAKARSEY, Mr. R. M. PATELL, the K. R. Mr. D. R. CHICHGAR, Dr. R. G. BANDARKAR, Mr. K. R. CAMA, and Rev. Dr. J. E. ABBOTT.

OPENING LECTURE IN WILSON COLLEGE HALL,
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5th, at 6 P.M.

THE BOMBAY STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

ELEPHANTA CAVES.

(Standard Time is kept at all Ports.)

STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY (Modi Bunder) as under :—

DAILY.

Bombay Dep. 7-30 A.M. Elephanta Dep. 11-15 A.M.
Elephanta Arr. 8-25 „ Bombay Arr. 12-15 P.M.

FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS ONLY.

Bombay Dep. 4-0 P.M. Elephanta Dep. 6-30 P.M.
Elephanta Arr. 4-45 „ Bombay Arr. 7-15 „

SINGLE FARES BOMBAY TO ELEPHANTA.

	Rs.	a.	p.
First Class	1	0	0
Second Class	0	6	0
Third Class	0	2	0

KILLICK NIXON & Co.,
Agents.
BOMBAY, 13TH DECEMBER, 1906.

LA MARTINIERE COLLEGE,
LUCKNOW,
AND
LA MARTINIERE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.
KHURSHAED MUNZIL,
LUCKNOW.

The school year begins 7th JANUARY.
For Prospectus apply to THE SECRETARY
La Martiniere College, Lucknow.

JARRAHWOOD.

WESTRALIAN Jarrah Steam-Sawn Scantlings suitable for Flooring, Joists, Rafters, Posts, Chowkhats, Office Partitions, Doors, Windows Polished Furniture, Frame work, Cotton bale ribs. Jarrah is about half the price of Teak. Sample and price list on application to

Messrs. MILLARS' KARRIH JARRAH Co.(1902) Ld.,
5, Green Street, Fort, Bombay.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATIONS.

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The Potter.
The British Coinage.
Life in the Seas.
Photography.
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The Cotton Plant.
Geographical Discovery.
The Mind.
The British Races.
Eclipses.
Ice in the Present and Past.
The Wanderings of Atoms.
Life's Mechanism.
The Alphabet.
Bird Life.
Thought and Feeling.
Art in the British Isles.
Wild Flowers.
Books.
King Alfred.
Fish Life.
Architecture.
Euclid.
Music.
Animal Life.
Lost England.
The Empire
Alchemy.
The Army.
Rapid Transit.
The Atlantic Cable.
Extinct Civilisations of the West.
Alpine Climbing.
A Grain of Wheat.
Wireless Telegraphy.
British Trade and Industry.

BOOKS FOR SALE.

ROUND ABOUT BOMBAY.
By James Douglas. Rs. 5.

THROUGH ASIATIC TURKEY.
(Bombay to the Bosphorous)
By Grattan Geary (2 Vols.) Rs. 10.

BURMA AFTER THE CONQUEST.
By Grattan Geary. Rs. 5.

LAYS OF THE LAW.
(A Selection of Leading Cases,)
By W. E. H. Re. 1.

GIRAS AND GUARANTEE,
Being a Compilation of Decisions, etc., on Questions regarding Giras, Wanta, and other Guaranteed Rights.
By L.P. Parikh. Rs. 6.
Apply "The BOMBAY GAZETTE" Office.

SALES BY AUCTION.

SORABJEE COWASJEE & CO.,
AUCTIONEER.

TO COLLECTORS OF OLD CHINA.
SALE OF OLD CHINA.

Messrs. SORABJEE COWASJEE & Co. will, on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day, of January, 1907, sell by Public Auction, at their Sales Rooms, at 2-30 p.m., a collection of old china, consisting of blue and white, blue and other coloured vases, flower-holders, jars, bowls, plates, coloured bamboo flower-holders, etc.
The goods are on view.

SALE OF ENGLISH DADO TILES.

Messrs. SORABJEE COWASJEE & Co. will, on WEDNESDAY, the 9th instant, sell by Public Auction, at their Sales Rooms, at 2-30 p.m.
A consignment of English Dado Tiles (for mill) as under :—

225	sq. yards	Pat A,
27	„	„ B.
165	„	„ C & D.
583	„	„ E & F.

Patterns can be inspected at the office of the Undersigned.

SORABJEE COWASJEE & CO.
BOMBAY, 4TH JANUARY, 1907.

NOW AVAILABLE.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.—Proxy and Transfer Forms at Two Annas each. Special Quotations for large quantities with name of Company included. Apply at "THE BOMBAY GAZETTE," Office.

To MARINE ENGINEERS.

SOTHERN'S MARINE ENGINEERING COLLEGE,
59, Bridge St., GLASGOW.
PRINCIPAL—J. W. SOTHERN, M. I. E. S.,
Practical Engineer and Draughtsman.

ENGINEERS are invited to write for our Correspondence EXAMINATION PAPERS, which we supply free of charge to all intending pupils.

"Verbal Notes, and Sketches for Marine Engineer," by J. W. Sothern, M. I. E. S, 5th Edition, revised and enlarged, Price 8s. post free
"The Marine Steam Turbine," by the same Author new edition, Price 6s 6d. Post Free.

KEATING'S LOZENGES
EASILY CURE
THE WORST COUGH.
One gives relief. An increasing sale of over 80 years is a certain test of their value. Sold in boxes everywhere.

AMUSEMENTS.

GAIETY THEATRE.

Lessee & Manager : MAURICE E. BANDMANN.

THE THEATRICAL EVENT OF THE SEASON.

BANDMANN COMEDY CO.
25 LONDON ARTISTES 25
DIRECT FROM LONDON.

TO-NIGHT, FRIDAY, 4TH JAN.

"THE MAN FROM BLANKLEYS."

Saturday, „ 5th.—" Two Little Vagabonds."
Monday, „ 7th.—" His House in Order."
Tuesday, „ 8th.—" All of a Sudden Peggy."
Wednesday, „ 9th.—" Leah Kleschna."
Thursday, „ 10th.—" The Country Mouse."
Friday, „ 11th.—" The Sign of the Cross."
Saturday, „ 12th.—" Our Flat."
Monday, „ 14th.—" The Admirable Crichton."
Tuesday, „ 15th.—" The Silver King."
Wednesday, „ 16th.—" The Duke of Killiecrankie."
Thursday, „ 17th.—" Charlie's Aunt."

Each piece is an entire production in itself and the scenery is painted and built from the identical London Models which have been kindly lent by the various London Managers.

Prices of Admission : Boxes, Rs. 25 ; Stalls, Rs. 5 ; Front Row Circle, Rs. 4 ; other Rows, Rs. 3 ; Pit, Rs. 2 ; Back Seats, Re. 1.

Plan now open at SEYMOUR DOVE & Co.

SKATING RINK.

DAILY SESSIONS
LEARNERS : 8 A.M. LADIES PRACTICE : 10 A.M.

GENERAL SKATING :
5-30 and 9-30 P.M.
PRIVATE CLUB SESSIONS
THURSDAY EVENINGS : from 6 to 8.
WEDNESDAY, 9th JANY :
SPECIAL SOCIAL EVENING.
SKATING, 9 to 10-30.
DANCING, 10-30 to 12.

Admission with use of Skates, Two Rupees.

SALES BY AUCTION.

BENNETT & COMPANY
No. 22, APOLLO STREET.

AUCTION SALE of Unserviceable Stores, a quantity of Bars Pigs, Capro Nickel Pigs, and Iron, etc., at the Castle Park Arsenal, Fort, behind the Town Hall.

Under instructions from the Ordnance Officer in Charge, Bombay Arsenal, Messrs. BENNETT & Co. will, THIS DAY, FRIDAY, the 4th day of January, 1907, at 2-30 p.m., sharp (Standard Time), sell by public Auction at the above-mentioned place, a large quantity of unserviceable stores, consisting of leather pieces, pawling iron, wrought scrape, zinc old scrap, water buckets, spade shovels, cupr nickel pig zinc old scrap brass pig, line light apparatus, lead pig canvas, leather of old sorts, tap cotton, gunny, rubbish, etc.

AUCTION SALE OF KNIFE CLEANERS AND TEAPOT STRAINERS.

TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, the 5th instant at 3-30 p.m. (S. T.) Messrs. BENNETT & Co. will sell by Public Auction at their rooms, by order of the concerned and on account, and risk of the concerned.

Ex. s.s. "Egypt,"

T. S. and Co., No. 1 to 6—6 cases knife cleaners.
No. 7, 1 case teapot strainers.

TO-MORROW SATURDAY, the 5th instant, at 3-30 p.m. (S.T.) Messrs. BENNETT and Co. will sell by Public Auction at their Rooms, a quantity of grey and coloured piece-goods, etc.

AT 2 P.M. (S.T.)

1 handsome strong rubber tyred victoria, in very good order.
1 handsome strong glass fronted miniature brougham in good order.
1 handsome strong second-hand palanquin, office shigram in good order.
1 Grey Arab, quiet in harness and saddle.
1 Bay pony, quiet in harness.
1 bay C. B. gelding "Upstart," winner of many races in Calcutta, Poona and Bombay.
1 chesnut Australian gelding, 16 hands, 6 years quite in harness and saddle.
1 Roan Australian gelding, 15-2, 6 years, quiet in harness and saddle.
1 bay Australian gelding, 5 years.
1 handsome grey Arab, accustomed to bill work, a hardy victoria horse.
1 set of brand new plated mounted harness and a set of second hand harness.
3 Side saddles complete, one winth Latehford patent safety stirrup and girths for three saddles,

BONA FIDE SALE.

On SATURDAY, the 12th and SUNDAY the 13th January next, at 2 p.m. (S.T.) each day, Messrs. BENNETT & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at "Mama Arjane," the Vellard, Mahaluxmi, the very valuable superb teakwood and blackwood, french-polished household furniture of the latest design and best workmanship, made to order by Wimbridge, Roberts, Breslaner and Dewjee Canjee, one first-rate mahogany fullsized slate billiard table made to order by G. Wright & Co. (nearly new) with balls, cues, lamps, etc., complete, complete suites of drawing room, boudoir and bed room furniture, one handsome Bohemian ruby glass 36 lights hanging chandelier, very elegant, rich Bohemian glass hanging kerosine lamps, large gilt pier glasses with gilt tables, large Brussels and velvet carpets, one 5 h. p. 3 seated Humber motor car in very good order, one pair of very handsome fast trotting grey arab horses, one handsome strong Bay arab horse, two light running victorias suitable for single or pair in very good order, etc., etc., the property of Mr. Hajee Ismail Hassum selling the furniture as he has sold the bungalow.
Catalogues will be published and the property is on view.

BONA FIDE SALE.

On SATURDAY, the 26th Inst, at 2 p.m. (S.T) Messrs BENNETT & Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at the G. I. Railway, Staff Quarters, Parel, the valuable and handsome teakwood and blackwood household furniture rich glass and crockery ware, Telescopic dining table, dining room chairs, side boards, drawing room, sofas and chairs cane furniture table ornaments, rich pictures, iron single and double bedsteads, dressing and wash hand table, almyrahs and chest of drawers, China matting, copper utensils, &c., &c, The property of A. R. SCOT Esq.
Catalogues will be published and the property on view 3 days before the sale.

BENNETT & CO
BOMBAY, 4TH JANUARY, 1907.

MENESSE AND COMPANY
No. 35, HUMMUM STREET.

AUCTION SALE of Building Materials.

Under instruction from the Bombay Improvement Trust Messrs. MENESSE & Co. will sell by Public Auction on the premises THIS DAY, FRIDAY, the 4th January, 1907, at 4 p.m. (Standard Time), the materials for removal of the following buildings :—
The materials of building Street No. 805, 231 (1) (3), 232 (4), 3; Case No. 18; 28 28C, 28 A and 55 Girgaum Back Road.
The materials of building Street No. 7 and 4 ; Case No. 37 and 38 ; Bhatwadi.
The materials of building Street No. 12, Case No. 25 ; Mulukwadi.

AUCTION SALE of Building Materials.

Under instruction from the Bombay Improvement Trust, Messrs. MENESSE & Co. will sell by Public Auction on the premises THIS DAY FRIDAY, the 4th January 1907, at 3-15 p.m. (S.T.) the materials for removal of the following buildings :—
The materials of building Street No. 88-12, 1 ; Case No. 1 and 2 ; Gowalia Tank Road.
The materials of building Street No. 79 and 56; Case No. 26 and 6 ; Gowalia Tank Road.
The materials of building Street No. 5 ; Case No. 45; Damer Lane.

AUCTION SALE OF REELING MACHINERY.

Messrs. MENESSE & Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, the 5th January, 1907, at 3-30 p.m. (S.T.), at the Alliance Mill premises, Tardeo, on account of the Insurance Offices concerned, the following goods damaged by fire and water, A quantity of Cotton reels, shafting, pulleys, &c, &c.

MENESSE & Co.
BOMBAY, 4TH JANUARY 1907.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATIONS.

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NOVEL LIST.

Colonial Editions.

Paper. Rs. 1-12. Cloth Rs. 2-4 each.

THE DOCTOR OF CROWS NEST. By Ralph Connor.
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EIGHT GUESTS. By Percy White.
THE SECOND BOOK OF TOBIAH. By U. L. Silberrad.
BURNT SPICES. By L. S. Gibson.
THE DREAM AND THE BUSINESS. By John Oliver Hobbes.
GROWTH. By Graham Travers.
THE MARRIAGE OF AMINTA. By L. P. Truscott
SIR NIGEL. By A. Conan Doyle.
AS YE HAVE SOWN. By Dolf Wyllarde.
CHIPPINGE. By Stanley J. Weyman.
A MORGANATIC MARRIAGE. By Carlton Dawe.
A LADY OF ROME. By F. Marion Crawford.
THE PORTALS OF LOVE. By Violet Tweedale.
SILAS STRONG. By Irving Bacheller.
THE HEIR. By Sydney C. Grier.
THE CRUISE OF THE DAZZLER. By Jack London.
THE HOUSE OF ISLAM. By M. Pickthall.
THE YOUNGEST MISS MOWBRAY. By B. M. Croker.
THE WHITE HOUSE. By M. E. Braddon.
SABA MACDONALD. By "Rita."
WHITE FANG. By Jack London.
THE TEA-PLANTER. By F. E. Penney.
MADE IN HIS IMAGE. By Guy Thorne.
THE UNGUARDED TAPER. By H. P. Lewis.
A LITTLE BROWN MOUSE. By E. Marie Albanesi.
THE FIELD OF GLORY. By Henry Sienkiewicz.
A PRINCESS OF VASCOVY. By John Oxenham.
THE LADY EVELYN. By Max Pemberton.

A. J. COMBRIDGE & CO.,
BOOKSELLERS, BOMBAY.

SALES BY AUCTION.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,
No. 7, MARINE STREET.

BONA FIDE SALE.

Under instructions from the Administrator-General as the Administrator of the Estate of the late Mr. Hormusjee Byramjee Moos, Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co., will sell by Public Auction THIS DAY, FRIDAY, the 4th Inst., at 2 p.m. (S.T.), at Harkness Road, Malabar Hill, the valuable and substantial teak and blackwood household furniture, pictures, ice-box, knitting frame, Chubbs iron safe, English chiming clock, silk and cotton and flannel wearing apparels, binocular, gold ring and spectacles, coins, silver snuff boxes, ivory chessmen, copper and brass utensils, 1 D.B.B.L. gun by Laing & Son, sword, lot of earthern and China pots with plants, a large lot of biographical, historical, medical and current literature books, scales, call bells, carpenter's tools, etc.
Catalogues are ready and the property is on view,

AUCTION SALE OF A VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY AT KUMBHARWADA 3RD STREET.

Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction THIS DAY, FRIDAY, the 4th January, 1907, at 4-30 p.m. (S.T.), by order of the mortgagee, Thacker Tulsidas Dharamsy and on account and at the risk of the mortgagors, Ibrahim Kasam Lalu and Amoobai, widow of Kasam Lalu, deceased, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the Indenture of Mortgage dated 8th December, 1904, the following valuable landed property on the premises.
All that piece or parcel of land or Government ground together with the messuage, tenement or dwelling-house standing thereon, situate, lying and being at Northbrook Street, otherwise called Kumbharwada 3rd Street, without the Fort of Bombay, in the Registration Sub-district of Bombay, fronting the east of the said street, containing by admeasurement 213 1-9 square yards or thereabouts, registered in the Books of the Collector of Land Revenue in the name of Govind Maldeo, under Old Nos 3020 and 3038, New No. 9954, Old Survey Nos. 356 and 4116 and New Survey No. 5050 (tenure, quit and ground rent) and assessed in the Books of the Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes on the name of Jiva Maldeo under Ward No. 7760, Street Nos. 5658 and 62, and bounded as follows :—Toat is to say : On or towards the south by the property of Vithaldas Pranjiwandas, on or towards the north by the property of Runsord Virdos, on or towards the east by the said Northbrook street, and on or towards the West by a sweeper's passage which said premises are now in the occupation of the mortgagors and their tenants.
For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to the undersigned.

AUCTION SALE of the furniture, two billiard tables, by John Robert, cottage piano, large marble top bar, electric fans and electric light chandeliers, etc. of the City Club.

TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, the 5th Inst., at 2 p.m. Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. are instructed to sell by public Auction at the Albert Building, 3rd floor, Hornby Road, Fort, next to Messrs. Phillips and Co. the entire furniture and fittings of the City Club, consisting of two mahogany full size slate billiard tables by John Roberts with balls, cues etc. in very good order, almost new ebonized cottage piano by Rose and Co. bought in October last, plush lined drawing room suite of sofas and chairs, Marble top large sizebar made to order, reading and card tables, arm and easy and cane chairs, hatstands, marble top dressing and washhand tables, cheval glass, sofas, cupboards, marble-top tables, large size mirror sideboard, and dumbwaiters, clocks, large ice chest, filter, rich glassware and crockery-ware, best plated-ware, cane furniture, gent's bicycle, safe, electric fans and electric light chandeliers etc.
Catalogues are published and the property is on view,

BONA FIDE SALE.
Auction Sale of Valuable Garden.

On SUNDAY, the 6th Inst., at 10 a.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction, at "Macaulay Lodge," on Beach Road, Bandora, a choice collection of garden plants in pots and tubs consisting of ferns, palms, crotons, lillies, roses, dracenas, garden benches and chairs, garden seats, China garden pots, stands, marble figures, fern house, water tanks, American fountain, Garden roller etc., the property of Fazulbhoy Jan Mahomed, Esq.
Catalogues are published and the garden is on view.

On SUNDAY, the 6th Inst., at 2 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co., are instructed to sell by Public Auction at "Macaulay Lodge," on Beach Road, Bandora, the very valuable and handsome household furniture made to order by Messrs. Dawjee Canji and Ahmed Dawji, such as large cabinets, chiffoniers, sofa cabinets, ottoman, suits of sofas and chairs, lined silk tapestry, large English musical box of Indian tunes, large Hyderabad carpet, standing lamps, majolica fish pond and flower stands and pots, valuable table ornaments, large mirror sideboard, dinner waggon, telescopic screw, dining table and chairs, revolving and plain top office tables, glass book presses revolving office chairs, teapoys, teak and iron bedsteads of latest designs, large mirror almyrahs, marble-topped dressing and wash-hand tables, lady's writing tables, chest of drawers, clothes press, ward-robe, glassware, crockery and plated-ware English victoria, Arab horses, motor car etc., the property of Fazulbhoy Jan Mahomed, Esq.
Catalogues are published and the property is on view.

WEEKLY AUCTION SALE.

On MONDAY, the 7th instant, at 2-30 p.m. Messrs. CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction, at their Rooms, a quantity of grey, white and coloured piece-goods and the following :—
Furniture such as cupboards, chest of drawers, writing, dressing and wash-hand tables, sofa, chairs, easy chairs, hat stand, wardrobe, iron safe.

At 3 p.m.

Several gent's bicycles by different makers.
1 light rubber-tyred victoria.
1 light rubber-tyred vis-a-vis.
1 double seated brougham.
1 French polished office shigram.
And any other carriages and horses which may be offered.

CRAWFORD & Co.
BOMBAY, 4TH JANUARY, 1907.

MR. N. P. KHARAS writes :—Singer's Sewing Machines are proved satisfactory in all respects. They are so strong that they can hardly go out to order, and as for [illegible]

"SPECIAL SHORT" ADVERTISEMENTS.

Only Advertisements for Clerks, Servants, &c. Houses to Let, and Goods for Sale or Wanted are accepted in this Column.

RATES.—(Cash only). Three lines—Per insertion One Rupee. Every additional line. Eight Annas. REPLIES will be sent "BEARING" unless amount to cover Postage is previously paid.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY.—A small consignment of the NEW ERA two speed gear BICYCLES have been sent out at Manufacturer's risk and are consequently available at an exceptionally low price. For inspection apply—MARCKS and Co., Ltd., Bombay and Poona.

CLEARANCE SALE for one week only of Hinks Lamps, Plateiware, Cutlery, Table ornaments and Porcelain at M. BIESLAUGH & Co. Church Gate Street.

REPAIRS OF Re. 1-8 within 25 years. I take this opportunity to tell you that Singer's Sewing Machine, which I purchased 25 years ago, has required only Re. 1-8 for repairs, and it is still going strong of all parts. J. R. Gardener 19, Forbes Street, Bombay.

FOR SPECTACLES Eyes examined FREE of CHARGE by Dr. DINSHAW DASTOOR pronounced as "A THOROUGHLY ABLE OPHTHALMIC SURGEON and a NEAT and SKILFUL OPERATOR" by the renowned PROFESSORS of LONDON. Competition defied The ORIGINAL FIRM of DINSHAW M. DASTOOR & Co. Opposite Evans Under, Fort.

FOR SALE CHEAP CHAMBERS ENCYCLOPEDIA in 10 Volumes in very good condition. Rs. 40. Reply No. 1480 Advt. Dept., "Bombay Gazette."

WANTED—A SHOP FOREMAN for Motor Car Works.—Apply No. 1483 ADVT DEPT, "Bombay Gazette."

ASSISTANT WANTED. Eurasian preferred who has experience of the Stationery Trade. Apply A. J. COMBRIDGE & Co., Esplanade Road,

WANTED for Mofussil outdoor work European healthy, steady, fairly educated. Salary Rs. 60 to 100. Apply No. 1469 Advt. Dept. "Bombay Gazette."

ASSISTANT ENGINEER REQUIRED for Tramway Reconstruction Contract. Apply to J. G. WHITE and Co, Ltd. Times of India Buildings,

NEW and 2nd HAND CARRIAGES in stock. Repairs promptly executed under experienced maistries. Painting and Varnishing, a speciality. M. C. FERNANDES & Co. Coach Builders 857, Girgaum Rd., Kennedy Bridge, Bombay.

ONE of the Sights of Bombay.—RAJA DEEN DAYAL'S ART PHOTOGRAPHIC SALOON replete with everything that Oriental luxury and Artistic taste can suggest, and visitors will not regret an inspection of their High Class Portraiture, Artistic Paintings and Enlargements, and Indian Views of places of Special Interest.—Portrait Painting in oil on Photographic Basis a Speciality. Hydraulic Lift available. Tata's Nippon Buildings, Top Floor, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

PARACHAND PURSRAM RAMSWAMI DIAMOND MERCHANT and JEWELLER by special leave to H. H. the Governor of Bombay, Dealer in Carpets, Shawls, Silks and all kinds of Draperies. Also have a very fine collection of Indian, Chinese and Japanese Curios which he offers at very reasonable rates. An inspection is solicited. Head Office, 63 Meadows St., Fort, Bombay. Branch Offices : Calcutta, Rangoon and Yokohama.

RAVAL & CO., Marble Merchants, Contractors, 13, Back St., Fort, Bombay. All Marble Works, Plain and Encaustic flooring, Dado white glazed Tiles and Roofing executed promptly at Moderate Prices.

RAILWAY HOTEL, Bombay, Grant Road, near Mora Buildings, Give it a trial and you will never regret your visit. Board and Residence, Rs. 2 and 3 per day. Very easy terms for permanent residents. Splendid Bars, Brand new Billiard Table. Dinner Rs. 1-4-0 ; Tiffin, Re. 1-0-0 ; Breakfast As. 12 Dinner served till late hours.

PAINT POST CARDS.—Real English PHOTOGRAPHIC SERIES suitable for CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR PRESENTS.—BARTON & CO.; Dealers in Indian and Continental Post Cards, 73, Medows Street.

STAR GILDING WORKS.—ELECTRO-PLATER and GILDERS. Cheapest and best House in the Trade. 7-10, Girgaum Road, Bombay.

COMPARISONS are ODIOUS, but you can't get fresher or better Photo Materials than from BAHADUR SAKHARAM & Co., Esaf Buildings, BOMBAY.

"LE ZIL" Fluid, a wonderful discovery absolutely non-irritant, quickest cure for all complicated FEMALE PELVIC CATARRHS and other diseases most prevalent to females. No internal medicines required, Dr. A. L. Pasloug of Lucknow writes.—"In cases of 6 and 8 years' duration it proved a marvel remedy." Rs. 2.—D. SPECIFIC Co., Meadows Street, Oriental Bank Buildings, FORT.

LARGEST ASSORTMENT of COOKING STOVES and Heaters to burn Coal, Wood, or Oil, and Kitchen Requisites in STOCK.—STOVE DEPOT, 17, Church Gate Street.

DHANAMAL CHELLARAM, Manufacturing Jeweller and Silk Merchant, 62-64 Meadow Street, Fort, Bombay, begs to call attention to his large and varied Stock of Jewels, Magnificent Chogas and Silks, Ivory and Sandalwood Boxes, Brass and Copper Ware, Oriental Jewellery, Precious Stones, Gold and Silver ware, Antique Silk Rugs and Embroideries, Camel Hair Shawls, Mallese Lace, etc., An inspection is invited

RECORDS and GRAPHOPHONES—Columbia new 6 inch tunes as natural as life, leave nothing to be desired. BOMBAY LYRIC STORES, Church Gate Street, Fort.

SEEDS : SEEDS !—Vegetable and Flowers. Fresh supply just received. PALEKAR & Co, Sitaram Building, Bombay.

GILDING, ELECTRO and NICKEL PLATING, Rubber Stamps, Die Sinking and Copper Plate Printing—Cheapest and most Durable—executed carefully. Also Visiting Cards, Inscription on presentation articles, Brass Sign Boards, Pecon' Jackets, Blocks and Stores &c., made by skilled artists. NANABHAI MAHADEV and Co., Jewellers and Watch Makers, 95 Meadow St., Bombay,

GRAND COLLECTION OF XMAS CARDS, 5,000 varieties to select from, Prices defy Competition. Splendid novelties in articles of Taste suitable for all pleasing gifts for presentation. BUBASH & Co., 37, Mirbux Street

FORMS OF POWER OF ATTORNEY Neatly printed. Price 2 Annas. Can be had at the Bombay Gazette" Office.

EARLY DELIVERY—Arrangements have been made with Messrs. BERNARD BROTHERS of Dadar to ensure early delivery of "THE BOMBAY GAZETTE" to subscribers in the Northern part of the Island (Parel, Sion, Sowree, Mahim, Worli, and Contiguous localities.)

SPECIAL OFFER.—COMMERCIAL ENVELOPES.—"Gazette Special No. 1" at Rs. 2-12 per thousand : If printed on flap, Rs. 4 per thousand. "Gazett : Special No. 2" at Rs. 3-12 per thousand : If printed on flap Rs. 4 per thousand. "Gazette : Special No. 3" at Rs. 3-12 per thousand : If printed on flap Rs. 5 per thousand. Samples on application at "THE BOMBAY GAZETTE," Office.

OLD BOOKS.—Advertiser will be glad to receive lists of Old and Rare Books relating to Indian History and Natural Products, with prices affixed to facilitate selection and purchase. Address "BIBLIOPHILE," No. 8313. Advt. Dept. "Bombay Gazette."

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.—Proxy and Transfer Forms at Two Annas each. Special Quotations for large quantities with name of Company included. Apply at "THE BOMBAY GAZETTE" Office.

BACK NUMBERS of THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE" Daily, the Weekly and the Weekly Mail edition, when available, are supplied on the following terms :—During month of issue, 3 annas ; Thereafter for three months, 4 annas ; Subsequent issues Re. 2 per copy according to numbers available Reverse charge one Rupee.

"GUNC" A Doctor's Discovery, Cures Positively in FOUR DAYS WITHOUT COPAIBA, SANDAL OIL or any internal medicines, which being powerful irritants to the kidneys and other vital organs, ruin the whole system. Re. 1 & Re. 2.—D. SPECIFIC Co. Meadows Street, FORT, Oriental Bank Buildings.

BOMBAY PRICE CURRENT and Summary of Trade Published Weekly, on the Departure of the Overland Mail for Europe, containing a Specially-Written Market Report, Freight Report, &c., Summary of Cotton Exports during the Week, Imports and Exports of Bullion, Comparative Summaries of Exports, Comparative Summaries of Imports, of Piece-Goods, and of Yarn into Bombay from Great Britain Share Lists and Rates of Exchange. List of Vessels in Bombay Harbour on the date of publication, and Arrivals and Departures of Vessels during the Week, Charters and Engagements. Annual Subscription in advance Rs. 10. Single Copy Annas 4. "Bombay Gazette" Office, Meadow Street.

BOMBAY GAZETTE WEEKLY EDITION—Issued every Saturday, giving all the News and Telegrams up to date. Subscription per Annum, Rs. 12 ; Half-yearly Rs. 7 ; Quarterly Rs. 4, Post free.

GOVERNMENT SERVANT SUPPLIERS.—Messrs. OLIVER and Co. undertake the Supply of Labour in General Cheap. The original and only firm that supplies thoroughly efficient and reliable High Class Servants. Patronized by the Officers of the Services. Especially First Class Goanese and Mahomedan Servants for whom we guarantee. Fee Bombay Re. 2, Mofussil Rs. 3 each servant. No. 4, Ch. G. St., Fort, Bombay. Established 1872.

REPORTS, Petitions, Memorials, Business Announcements, Bill Forms, Books, Pamphlets, &c., &c., printed with neatness and promptitude at reasonable rates. Special terms for large contracts. Apply to the Manager. The Bombay Gazette" Steam Press.

HARNESS.—Two sets of SINGLE HARNESS, for Horse 15 to 16 hands, in excellent and serviceable condition. Offers will be received by No 8483, Advt Dept, "Bombay Gazette."

INDIAN TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.—Special time and fare tables of all the Indian Railways. Abstract of rules and Regulations, through routes and fares from Bombay to places in India and Abroad Postal and Telegraphic information, Steam-Boat and dak Companies, places of interest along the Coast. A Coloured Map of India showing the Principal Railway routes on the Indian Lines. Price, Eight annas. Apply at "THE BOMBAY GAZETTE" Office.

THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

NEW FEATURES
FOR THE
NEW YEAR.

SERIAL STORY.

A POWERFUL AND DRAMATIC NOVEL
BY AN EMINENTLY POPULAR AUTHOR.

THE CROOKED WAY
BY
WILLIAM LE QUEUX.

Author of "Whoso Findeth a Wife," "Whatsoever a Man So

"MY LIFE HAS BEGUN AFRESH!"

TOO old at forty! It is sad indeed to think that so many capable men become enfeebled, mentally and physically at an early age. What is the reason? Simply this that the stress of modern life has increased enormously, is increasing daily. The desire to live the strenuous life, the necessity to do so, means that a greater strain is placed upon the brain while nothing is done to strengthen that delicate organism to enable it to bear increased pressure. Those who have learned the wisdom of this take

PROF. JAMES' ELECTRO-TONIC PEARLS

and find a fresh lease of life before them. It is not a remedy for one or two, but a remedy FOR ALL! You can benefit as well as anybody else. Prof. James' Electro-Tonic Pearls renew vitality, substitute strength for weakness, keen wits for dulled brains and transform the dejected or despondent into healthy-minded, cheerful men and women. It plants hope where hopelessness existed before and its effects are pronounced and lasting. Get a bottle today Rs. 2 per bottle of 40 Pills. Of all chemists and Medicine Venders.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, JANUARY 2.

SECURITIES—			
2½ per cent. Consols	86 3/4	=	+11/16
2½ per cent. Rentes	95 1/2	=	+1-4
2½ per cent. Indian Sterling Loan	101	=	+3/4
3½ per cent. Indian Enfaced Rupee Paper	64 1/4	=	+1/16
SILVER—			
Spot in London	32 7/16	=	+1/16
3 months hence	32 7/16	=	+1/16
Spot in New York	69 7/8	=	+1/4
EXCHANGES—			
Paris cheques	25-23 1/2	=	-0'2
Berlin cheques	20'50 3/4	=	+1 1/4
New York Demand	4'84 3/4	=	+1 1/4
DISCOUNTS—			
Bank of England	6	pr. ct.	Since 19th Oct
3 months' sight Bank Bills	5 1/8	do.	— 1/2
4 months' sight Bank Bills	4 5/8	do.	— 1-4
3 months sight Fine Trade Bills	5 3/4	do.	— 1/4
6 months' sight Fine Trade Bills	5 3/4	do.	— 1/8
INTEREST—			
Day to day loans	4 1/8	pr. ct.	— 2 3/8
7 day market loans	4 3/8	pr. ct.	— 1/8

Amount paid into the Bank of England about £200,000.

The sum of £500,000 received from India on account Secretary of State for India has been sets aside for Indian paper currency reverse.

At the Periodical Biddings for Council Bills for Rs. 1,30,00,000.
Rs. 45,40,0 0 were allotted to Calcutta.
Rs. 4,30,000 do Bombay.
Rs. 35,40,00 do Madras.

76,10,000

At 1s. 4 3/32d.

Minimum rate received 82 per cent.

Telegraphic Transfers—
Rs. 79,60,00 were allotted to Calcutta.
Rs. 14,30,00 do Bombay.
Rs. .... do Madras.

43,90,000

At 1s. 4 5/32d.

Minimum rate received 82 per cent.
Total amount sold during week Rs. 1,27,10,000
Amount to be allotted next week „ 1,00,00,000
Extra allotments Transfers on Calcutta Rs. 5,00,000 at 1s. 4 3/16d

WHEAT—Tone quiet but steady

RAPESEED—
Yellow Gusarat 48 1/4 April-May sellers tone steady
Brown 43 1-2 April-May sellers tone steady

LINSEED—Tone steady.

COFFEE—
Coffee in New York 7

IN LIVERPOOL—			
Cotton Market closed			quiet
Best Indian			quiet
Manchester			steady
Total Sales			7,000 bales
Spot			581 - 01
Egyptian F G F Brown			10 7/16 unchanged
Sold on speculation and for Export			1,000 bales
Imports			77,000 bales
Futures closed			steady

Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-April
5 43	5 48	5 47
plus 03	plus 03	plus 04
April-May.	May-June.	June-July.
5 48	5 49	5 49
plus 04	plus 04	plus 04
July-Aug.	Aug.-Sep.	Sept.-Oct.
5 49	5 51	5 51
plus 04	plus 04	new position.

Receipts at U. S. Ports	2 days	58,000 bales
Do. last year		16,000 „
Exports to Great Britain	„	23 000 „
Do. do Continent	„	20,000 „
IN NEW YORK—		
Spot		10 75 + 10
Futures, month of March		9 47 + 09 *
Do do. July		9 33n. p.

* Advanced early owing to weak cables and advanced later through expectation of a decrease in the movements.

IN NEW ORLEANS—	
Spot	10 1-4 + 1/8
Futures, month of Mar	10 19 + 18
Do. do. May	10 31 new position
Tone at close	steady

Arrivals of Cotton, Wheat and Seeds into Bombay for the 48 hours ending 6 p.m. on 2 January :—

Cotton	34,436 bales.
Wheat	6,072 cwts.
Linseed	1,021 „
Rape, Rai and Mustard	1,501 „
Gingelly seed	48,539 „
Poppyseed	493 „
Groundnute	4,644 „
Castorseed	2,307 „
Rice	5,219 „
Myrabollams	5,389 „
Ootacoond	27,357 „
Mowraseed	617 „
Gram	7,090 „
Joowar	4,651 „
Maize	628 „

BOMBAY, THURSDAY EVENING.

THE Cotton Markets have opened steadier after the holidays both in New York and Liverpool, the former markets, reporting an advance of 10 points in Spot and 9 points in Futures, while in Liverpool Spots is 1 point higher and arrivals 4 to 5 higher. The local market is hardening and prices are today about Rs. 2 per candy higher all round, with a moderate enquiry for ready and more buyers than sellers for forward.

Exchange is quiet. Rupee Paper opened at 95-6 and advanced to 95-10 for cash and the settlement.

SHARES.

Petits	Rs.	3,385
Davids	„	425

EXCHANGE.—Tone quiet.

Bank T. T.	...Is. 4 3/32d.
Bank Demand	...Is. 4 5/32d.
Credit Bills 3 Months' Sight D. A.	...Is. 4 17/32.
Do. 6 do. do.	...Is. 4 11/16.
French Francs 3 m/s D A	... 173
Marcks 3 do. do.	... 141 1/2
Hongkong 30 Days' Sight	... 162
Shanghai 30 do. do.	... 222
Japan 30 do. do.	... 148 3/4

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—3 1/2 p. c. Tone,

Cash	95-10
1st Settlement	95-10
2nd do	96-1 to 2

MONEY MARKET.—Tone.

BANK RATE—

Bank of England since	19th	Oct. 6	per cent.
Bank of Bombay do.	13th	Dec. 9	do.
Bank of Bengal do.	6th	do. 9	do.
Bank of Madras do.	13th	do. 8	do.

Official quotations of the Bombay Cotton Trade Association, Limited:—

	Fine.	F-G	Goods.	Delivery.
Bengal, H. G. (Ry. terms)	176	167	...	Ready.
Bengal, M.G. do.	174	165	...	Jan. 25
S. Punjab M G	181	172	...	Ready.
Comrawattee (description) M-G	180	171	...	Jan. 25
Khandeish (M-G)	207	201	...	Ready.
	196	190	...	Jan. 25
Khangaum, (M-G) fair staple	199	184	...	Ready.
Karsala (M-G)	207	201	...	Ready.
Akola (M-G) do	206	200	...	Jan. 25
Yeotmal (M. G.)	219	213	...	Ready.
	218	212	...	Jan. 25,
Dhamangaum and Poolgaum M-G	214	208	...	Ready.
	213	2 7	...	Jan. 25,
Nagpur Kamptee (M-G)	223	217	...	Ready.
	222	216	...	Jan. 25
Broach (M.G.)	236	...	230	Mar.
Muttia (M. G.)	188	180	...	Ready.
	187	179	...	Jan 25,

LIVERPOOL OPENING TELEGRAM.

Tone	Steady
Estimated sales	8,000 bales.
Imports	37,000 „

Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-Apl.
5'53	5'51	5'50
plus 04	plus 03	plus 03
Apl.-May.	May-June.	June-July.
5'51	5'52	5'52
plus 03	plus 03	plus 03
July-Aug.	Aug.-Sept.	Sept.-Oct.
5'52	5'46	5'39
plus 03	plus 03	plus 03

THE INDIAN GOLD MINES.

The following quotations were received by Messrs. Scott and Tod, Share, Stock and Exchange Brokers, of Second Beach Line Madras, by Special Cablegram 3rd January :—

Mines.	Share.	Paid up.	Buyers.	Sellers.
Anantapur Gold	£1	7s. 6d.	£0 11 3	£0 13 9
Balaghat	£1	£1	£1 3 9	£1 5 0
Champion Reefs	2s. 6d	2s. 6d.	£0 12 6	£0 14 3
Coromandel	£1	£1	£0 2 0	£0 3 9
Dec. G. F. Dev	£1	8s. 0d.	£0 0 9	£0 2 0
Dhar. Gold Mines	£1	£1	£2 13 8	£2 13 0
Dharwar Reefs	£1	£1	£1 8 3	£1 8 9
G. F. Mysore	£1	£1	£0 1 6	£0 2 6
Glenrock, Ind	10s.	9s. 6d.	£0 2 0	£0 3 0
G. F. Dharwar	£1	£1	£0 17 6	£1 0 0
Hutti	£1	£1	£2 1 3	£2 3 9
Hyderabad Dec	£3	£3	£2 12 6	£2 13 0
Ind. Mines Dev	5s.	5s.	£0 2 0	£0 3 0
Kempinkote New	6s.	5s.	£0 1 0	£0 1 6
Mysore Gold	10s.	10s.	£5 13 9	£5 18 9
Mysore Reef Ord	£1	£1	£0 0 3	£0 0 9
Mysore West	£1	10s.	£0 4 0	£0 5 0
Mysore Wynaad	£1	10s.	£0 3 6	£0 4 6
Nundydroog	10s.	10s.	£1 6 3	£1 8 9
Ooregum (Ord)	10s.	10s.	£0 12 6	£0 14 0
Road Block	£1	£1	£0 3 0	£0 4 0
Sangli (New)	£1	10s.	£0 6 9	£0 8 0
Topadoli	£1	10s.	£0 10 3	£0 11 6

BANK OF BOMBAY.

The following is the Memorandum of the Bank's profit for the half year ended 31st December :—

Total Profit	Rs.	11,15,383 4 4

Applied as follows :—

To Dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum free from Income Tax	Rs.	5,00,000	0 0
Bonusat 2 per cent.	„	1,00,000	0 0
Transferred to Reserve Fund	„	2,00,000	0 0
Do. Dead Stock	„	20,000	0 0
Carried forward	„	2,80,383	4 4
	Rs.	11,15,383	4 4

THE BANK OF BENGAL.

The net profits of the Bank of Bengal for the past half year, including the amount brought forward from the previous half year, amount to Rs. 22,25,226-14-10, and have been disposed of as follows :—

In payment of a Dividend at 10 per cent. per annum free of Income Tax	Rs.	10,00,000
Bonus at 2 per cent. per annum	„	2,00,000
Transferred to Reserve Fund	„	5,00,000
Do Pension Fund	„	50,000
Do Premises Fund	„	1,50,000
Carried forward to next half year	„	3,25,226-14 10
	Rs.	22,25,226-14-10

The local Manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Ld., has received telegram from the Head Office at Yokohama that the profit of the Bank for the half year ending 31st December, 1906, amounts to two millions one hundred eighty thousand yens (about Rs. 32,70,000).

KARACHI FREIGHT MARKET.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

KARACHI, JANUARY, 3.

Freights—The market has again been closed for the New Year and the business has consequently been small. Rates of freight are firmly mantained by owners and by holders of tonnage, but shippers show no anxiety to make engagements. The winter rains have yet to fall and lower prices for wheat will not be accepted until the young crops are made secure by seasonable showers.

Engagements,—Elderman Line Liverpool 3,000 tons February, at 15s. 6d. Wilson Line Hull steamship "Castello" 750 tons at 15s. 6d. 3,000 tons at 16s. the steamship "Othello" 3500 tons at 16s. 6d. and the Charter steamship Dragoman, Hamburg, at 16s. 6d.

THE CHINA YARN MARKET.

Messrs. Phirozsha B. Petit & Co, writing from Hongkong on December 14, report on the Yarn Market as follows :—

HONGKONG.

Our last circular was dated the 30th ult.

The yarn market, during the whole of the past fortnight, without being unduly pessimistic, presents one continued feature of gloom and depression, and prices, in consequence, ruled rather weaker. The reason for such a poor state of affairs is found in the fact of the instability, generally speaking, of the Chinese yarn merchants. Transactions, as must be expected, were considerably restricted and just a very moderate business of only 700 bales was reported in the market during the earlier part of the fortnight under review.

Then came a sudden and unwelcome crash in the market. One of the largest firms of Chinesse yarn dealers, owing to the heavy drop in the prices of yarn of the dearly-purchased stock he had still to clear, has had to seek shelter in the Insolvency Court in view of his heavy liabilities. By this failure the very largest quantity of uncleared stock contracted for by any native buyer will be thrown back on first hands. The amount being by no means inconsiderable one seriously aggravates the unsatisfactory condition of the market.

The news of this latest failure caused quite a panic amongst yarn merchants in the Colony. Importers are thus non-plussed and at a loss to discover any safe guidance to lead them along the tortuous course created by a condition wholly unprecedented in the entire history of the yarn trade in Hongkong. It is no exaggeration when it is asserted that the staggering blow dealt upon dealers and merchants alike finds no parellel in the past. Through this most recent collapse compradores and importing firms will have to bear rather heavy losses. The amount cannot, even approximately, be determined at time of writing.

Some four new firms of Chinese dealers have been called into existence to replace the defunct hongs that have been drawn into the vortex of the financial crisis. It is our pleasure to note among the newcomers some names of good standing, commercial integrity and extensive resources. These firms are begin ning to feel their way and limiting business to one of very slender character only, buying from hand to mouth. In the cases of some selected threads buyers have been found, but only in very small lots.

It is surmised, though we should not care to place ourselves in the position of false prophets, that when the major portion of the stock now in second hands is exhausted (big lots finding their way back into first hands) a more cheerful outlook is bound to present itself. This forecast is prompted by the belief that consumptions must proceed along the lines of previous years, more or less, and with a renewed demand prices are sure to advance, unless checked by an adverse course of Exchange, resulting in good business which might be anticipated after the Chinese New Year, but not before, since rather early in the winter some of the Northern ports are already blocked by ice.

No. 20s.—Only selected threads changed hands at quotations for immediate requirements only.

No. 16s.—A very trifle business is reported.

No. 12s.—Totally neglected.

No. 10s.—Heavy drop in prices induced very trifling sales.

Nos. 8 and 6.—Totally neglected.

The market closes quiet.

Sales during the past fortnight :—565 bales of No. 10s., 40 bales of No. 16s., and 440 bales of No. 20s. ; in all about 1,045 bales.

Arrivals :—Per steamers *Catherine, Apear* and *Nanzang* (from Calcutta.) and steamers *Bombay Maru* and *Capri* (from Bombay,) of about 10,500 bales of this port and about 14,000 for Shanghai.

Shipment :—About 3,000 bales.

Unsold Stock :—About 118,000 bales.

Local Yarn :—Sales of about 100 bales 10s at dol. 82 per bale.

Japanese Yarn :—Sales of about 100 bales of 20s. at dol. 128 per bale.

Exchange :—We quote, to-day, as under :—

India T.T.	at Rs.	1.654	per cent.
„ Demand	„ „	165 3/4	„
London T. T.	„ Sh.	2-2 13/16d.	= dol.
„ Demand	„ „	2-2 7/8d.	= dol.
Shanghai	„ Tls.	72½	= 100 dol.
Silver	„	31 5/8d.	per oz.

SHANGHAI.

The same firm writing from Shanghai, December 8 says :—

The Japanese Military Administration restored Newchwang to the Chinese Government on the 6th inst., and it is hoped that that Port, which is now ice-bound, will resume its former business activity on the return of Spring.

The continued steady fall in the Rupee Exchange during the last fortnight has tended to increase the prices of some chops by Tls. 2 to Tls. 4 per bale. But this rise in prices is not in proportion to the decline in silver, and, in consequence, does not afford much relief to the importers. The demand for Indian Spennings has been somwhat better even at the enhanced prices. An improvement in the yarn market is expected to take place after the China New Year.

No. 10s, have been in great demand for Tientsin and Kiaochow. An advance of Tls. 2 to Tls. 4 per bale on the previous prices was paid and about 5,000 bales changed hands.

No. 12s, Kiaochow has taken the bulk of this stock at an increase of Tls. 3 per bale, Sales amounted to about 1,700 bales.

No. 16s, have been purchased for Kiukiang at an advance of Tls. 2 to Tls. 3 per bale. About 700 bales were sold.

No. 20s, Szechuen has paid most attention to this count Ripon (Mule) has been in great demand for Hankow. Prices have gone up by Tls. 2 to Tls. 2.50 a bale. Sales about 2,300 bales.

Total sales of Indian Yarn during the fortnight about 2,700 bales.

Arrivals of Indian Yarn during the fortnight about 13,000 bales.

Estimated unsold stock about 100,000 bales.

Sold but uncleared stock about 10,000

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On India	T.T. Rs.	228 1/2	per	Tls. 10
„ Hongkong	„	73 1/8	„	„ 100
„ London	„	3s. 1d.	per	Tl.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Chest and Stomach complaints. The source and centre of almost every ailment is impurity of the blood; dislodge this poison and disease departs. Holloway's Pills exercise the inestimable power of thoroughly cleansing each component part of the blood, and rendering this fluid fit to perform its important functions. They cope most successfully with chest diseases, stomach complaints, liver disorders, and many other maladies, which were once the besetting dangers of mankind at certain seasons. The directions for use enable everyone to regulate the operation of these Pills with the greatest nicety. Chronic invalids, nervous sufferers, and all whom other treatment has failed to relieve, are respectfully invited to try Holloway's celebrated medicine, which will strengthen and cure them.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE Charge for Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, and MEMORIAN NOTICES which must be authenticated by the name and address of the senders, is Re. 1 for six lines or less and 8 as. for every additional lines. CASH strictly in ADVANCE.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

COATES—December 21, At Lahore, to Lieutenant-Colonel Mrs. Coates—a son.

TRENT—December 24, At Jullundur, the wife of Captain G. A Trent, Northamptonshire Regiment, of a son.

GROVE—December 22, At Nasirabad, the wife of Captain P. L. Grove, The Cheshire Regiment, D. A. A. G., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

MOSS—LYDIARD,—December 20, at the Circuit House, Bankura, by the Rev Fr L Haghenbeck, S J Richard Cecil Moss, P W Dron of Mr B F Moss, of Ballybrack, Co Dublin, to Katherine Fanny Clemence, youngest surviving daughter of Mr W C Lydiard, of "The Manor," Bankura, and grand-daughter of the late Colonel W Lydiard, B S C.

VENABLES—HOWARD—December 22, At St. David's Church Gaya, by the Rev N H Tubb's, M.A. Arthur Vincent, elder son of A P Venables, Esq of Addington Lodge, Crouch Hill, to Aileen Mary Constance, eldest daughter of W J Howard, Esq Barrister-at-Law.

DEATHS.

ARNOLD—December 23, at Vizagapatam, Isidore, of Messrs Gordon Woodroffe's, accidentally drowned aged 42 years Deeply regretted by his widow and a large circle of relatives and friends.

GILLMAN—December 24, At Meerut, Leonard William Gillman, Sub-conductor, Supply and Tradsport Corps resired, aged 42 years.

O'GORMAN—At Germanston, Dehra Dun, U P on Xmas morning of acute dysentery, Major Cornelius O'Gorman, Ret List, in his 75 years.

RUBBING "VEGETINE" KILLS THE PAIN.

"VEGETINE" is the latest discovery of Scientific Pharmacy. It is a salve or Ointment manufactured from VEGETABLE INGREDIENTS ONLY. It can be used for every purpose where a healing Ointment is indicated and also as a Liniment or Embrocation.

FOR Eczema ; Pimples ; Sunburn ; Freckles.

FOR Cuts ; Bruises ; Burns ; Scalds ; Piles ; Boils.

FOR Sciatica ; Rheumatism ; Stiff Joints ; Muscular Pains.

12 As. per pot.

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Kemp & Co Ltd

THE CHEMISTS,

BOMBAY.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 7h. 13m. ; Sun sets, 6h. 14m. ; High water, 1-56m., 1-51a., Low water, 8-6m., 7-33a.

P. and O. s. s. Oceana, with English mails of 21st ult., due to arrive at 7 a. m.

Arrival of H. E. the Governor by s.s. Canning, Apollo Bunder, 6 p.m.

Gaiety Theatre, Bandmann Comedy Company.

Skating Rink.

A FATAL SNAKE BITE.—Sakia Gopal, a mill-hand, residing at Mori Road, Mahim, aged about twenty, was bitten by a snake on the left leg while he was sitting on a hay-stack on the night of the 31st ultimo. Household remedies were resorted to but his condition grew worse and he died last evening.

LOSS OF A DIAMOND BROOCH.—Mrs. Austin Low, staying in the Taj Mahal Hotel, has reported to the police the loss of her diamond brooch of the value of Rs. 525. The informant wore it last at the dance at the Yacht Club, and she saw that it was safe on her person in the dancing room. She then drove to her place, about half an hour after midnight, in a hach-victoria, and on arriving at the Hotel she missed the brooch.

MURDER OF A CHILD.—From under a heap of rubbish near a dust-bin in the First Pathan Wada, the dead body of a newly-born male child was discovered yesterday by a municipal sweeper. This was a cut on the throat of the child. The Coroner's jury held an inquest on the child and returned the verdict of death from haemorrhage from a cut on the throat, but that under what circumstances the throat was cut there was no evidence to show.

LADIES IN THE TRAMCAR.—Yesterday at the Esplanade Police Court before Mr. Cursondas Chubildas, Third Presidency Magistrate, A.H. Suratwala, a Borah, was charged with abusing and assaulting Bomonji Rutonji Mehta, a Parsi, on the 18th ultimo. The complainant told accused not to sit on a particular bench of a tramcar where there were three male-passengers and a lady. Accused would not listen and rushed to the Bench. A dispute arose and the accused abused the complainant. The magistrate convicted and fined him Rs. 10 remarking that everybody in Bombay out of respect for the ladies never entered the seat where a lady was likely to be inconvenienced. The conduct of the accused to his Worship's mind was very impertinent.

PARSEE WEDDING AT SECUNDERABAD.—A correspondent writes:— On Monday the 31st ult., a pretty wedding took place here in the spacious and elegant mansion of Mr. Shapurjee Eduljee Chinoy, a landed proprietor of this district, the contracting parties being Mr. Jevanjee Rustomjee Mody and Bai Khurshedbanoo Hormusjee Bengalee, daughter of Mr. Hormusjee Dhunjeebhoy Bengalee. Both parties belong to respectable families, and almost all the chief Parsee residents of this place and Chaddan Ghat were present at the wedding, the number of ladies preponderating. The Volunteer Band was present and played a selection of music during the evening. Dastur Khurshedjee and his learned son performed the wedding ceremonies. About 5 o'clock a procession was formed in front of Mr. Chinoy's bungalow, and in the gardens; and on its return the guests were accommodated in the mansion, which has recently been enlarged and decorated. The collection of rich wedding presents was displayed in the front hall. The ceremony being over, the happy couple shook hands with those present. The guests afterwards adjourned to a banquet. The ladies formed themselves into a circle and moved round and round singing garbis and other songs. Refreshments were again served, and the party broke up about midnight.

ST. ISABEL'S (LADIES') CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION, KALBADEVIE CIRCLE.—Mrs. David Thomson, Honorary Secretary, begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following donations towards the Kalbadevie Circle from 1st September to 31st December 1906, H. H. Raja Bir Bhure Singh, K. C. S. I., C. I. E., Rs. 50 ; H. H. Shree Maharaj Lady Gujputee Rao Garu, Rs. 15; the Hon'ble Dr. Rashbeary Ghose, C. I. E., Mr. L. M. Wadia, Bar-at-Law and the Hon'ble Dr. Rashbeary Ghose, C. I. E. (2nd donation) each Rs. 10 ; Khan Bahadur Kersaspjee Rustomjee Dadachanjee, M. A., L. L. B., Khan Bahadur Burjorjee D, Patel, C. I. E., Mr. Burjorjee Manockjee Patel, N. N. W., Khan Bahadur Eduljee Sorabjee Chinoy, H. B., O. G. O., Messrs Whiteaway Laidlaw & Co., Mr. P. de Bure, Mr. Septimus E. Greaves, J. L. R., H.M.. Messrs. John Dickinson & Co., Lt., Mr. F. Grocco, P. M. D. Mr. O. S. Mawson, Comptoir National de Escomplide Paris, J. McD., B. & Co., Mr. H. Kemball, C. E., Mr. P. Glynn Messent, M. I. C. E., Mr. B. H, Hewett, A. H., Mr. W. E. Sheppard, I. C. S., Mr. J. S. Brown, E. C. B. A., Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim, Kt., Mr. Dwarkadas Dharamsey Damoder Lakmidas, Mr. N. Leslie, Mr. W. S. Millard, Mr. J. A. Geddes, A. N. Other, S. S. S., S. J. G., Khan Bahadur B. D. Pudumji, A. L., D. L. B., Signor V. de Wrem, Mr. J. A. Grant, Mr. J. Metaxa, Mr. E. L. Ralli, H. E. E. P., J. F. B., Mr. A. Warren Jones, Mr. Pestonji, N. Masani, Mr. J. B. Dalal, Mr. D. M. Wilson, R. R. R., P. B., A. H. F., F. R. W., M. H. H., Mr. C. J. A. Wadia, C. H. S. B., Eric and Matrin, Mr. S. B. Bharoocha, Mr. N. M. Wadia, C. I. E., N. N. W., Mr. T. W. Cuffe, W. C., Mr. W. A. Chambers, Mr. J. W. Hepworth, L'incounu, F. C. H., Mr. J. H. Dunkerley, B. A., A. H. D., Mr. H. J. Lowndes, H. S., R. H. M., Mr. J. A. Wadia, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice H. Batty, I. C. S., Mr. T. Gaddum, Mr. H. R. Greaves, the Hon'ble Mr. W. H. White, C. I. E., R. W. H., Lt. Col. M. T. Yarr. Major F. Lee, Mr. W. L. Cameron, A. M. I. C. E., Mr. A. Hill, I. C. S., Surg. Genl. J. P. Greany, I. M. S., O. M., Mr. A. D. Stephanos, Framjee Munchurjee Cama Charity, Mr. R. E. Enthoven, I. C. S., Mr. Framjee Bomonjee Jeejeebhoy and Mr. W. Richardson, each Rs. 5 ; and various other items under Rs. 5. Further contributions will be thankfully accepted and acknowledged.

SPORTING NEWS.

BOMBAY HUNT.

In a much cooler temperature about 40 people gathered together at Santa Cruz yesterday morning. It was with great regret one noticed that the Huntsman, Charles Payne, was unable to take his accustomed place in the field, owing to an unfortunate accident to his hand by the bursting of a soda water bottle. The Master in consequence carried the horn, and so successfully did he do so that a really first class morning's sport has to be recorded. A large covert in the direction of the village of Parla was the first to be drawn, and hounds almost immediately told us that a jackal was on foot. They came running out of the wood well together, and with plenty of joyful "music" took a nice line over a long stretch of paddy fields, through some rather dense brushwood, surrounded by large cactus hedges which made excellent jumps for our horses, and on almost to Jackal Hill. Here a slight check occurred, but only for a very short time, as two hounds quickly owned to the scent again, and with the rest of the pack following them rushed over the railway. Much of the country on the seaside of the railway is practically unhuntable owing to the great increase in the number of houses, the gardens of which are fenced with wire, and if a jackal runs for any distance in this locality, hounds can only be followed by riding round hard roads with perhaps an occasional bridle path to assist one. There was however not much of this riding to be done yesterday, as the jackal in his endeavour to get through a very thick cactus hedge was caught by the pack, and at once put an end to. It was a very smart piece of work on the part of the pack, as the absence of any dew on the ground made hunting a good deal more difficult than it otherwise might have been. Time being still in hand, the Master elected to jog over to Sabar to try what luck might be found in the renowned coverts of that vicinity. It was some little time before any hound spoke to a line at all, the steadily rising sun doubtless making himself felt, but in spite of distinctly adverse conditions, a most enjoyable gallop was given to us. When the pack did own to the scent of a jackal, it was only with difficulty that they were able to hold to it, as the ground was exceedingly dry, but the Master was untiring in his efforts by cheering on his hounds and casting them in various directions, with the result that the pack piloted us over a splendid tract of riding country to the Backwater. Finding an easy ford, we are soon across, and galloping our fastest to live with the pack as far as the Vehar-Kurla Road, At a somewhat stony hill beyond go the hounds, but many of us are able to save our horses by riding round the hill and meeting the pack on the farside continue over pleasant grassy meadows to the Hogsback Hill. Here there was a longish check, and many were of opinion that our quarry had gone to ground in a well known oart on the top of the hill, as more than one jackal has done in years gone by. Such however, was not the case, as the hunted one is viewed by a number of the field going across the valley beyond with one hound running mute in his wake. The rest of the pack after a time pick up the scent again and pilot us as far as the 'mountain "which forms one side of the famous Horse Shoe Valley. Straight up this immense hill go the pack, but our horses have already had a hard morning and none but the Hunt officials attempt this terrible climb. Before reaching the summit however, the jackal works along the side of the hill, and eventually doubles back across the valley to the Hogsback Hill once more, where he was able to run out of scent. This second run had lasted for almost 40 minutes, and though perhaps was not quite as fast as some runs can be, it was most enjoyable. It is a fine instance of how really well hounds can at times hunt with all favourable conditions apparently absent.

JACKAL.

BANGALORE RACES.

New Year's Gymkhana.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BANGALORE, JANUARY 3.

The New Year's Gymkhana races of the Bangalore Gymkhana Club took place this afternoon on the Bangalore Course. The attendance was very good and one book-marker did business, also totalization by the 14th Hussars. The card provided six races, the finishes in all being good. Major Stephen, 14th Hussars, was judge and Mr. Murray Aynsby, Starter. Results :—

NEW YEAR PLATE HANDICAP.

For ponies, half a mile.

Mr. A. G. Gwyer's Tam Ring 12st. 7lbs. Major Barnard 1
Capt. J. B. Walker's Crazy Jane 9st 12lbs ..... Major Tottenham 2
Major Brandreth's Mandoline 9st. 7lbs. ..... Owner 3

Also Ran.—Tarcoola 12st 7lbs and Piscator 10st.

Betting.—2 to 1 against Tam Ring and Tarcoolas, 3 to 1 Crazy Jane and Mandoline, 5 to 1 Piscator.

Won easily by 3 lengths, half a length between second and third. Time 59 1-5secs.

The totalizator paid rupees six.

BANGALORE DERBY.

Handicap for horses, 1 1-4 miles.

Mr Gwyer's David 12st 5lbs. ..... Major Barnard
Mr P Hannington's Advance 11st 7lbs. ..... Owner
Major Tottenham's Roger 10st 7lbs. ..... Owner
Mr P F Villier's Gay Lord Quex 11st 3lbs. ..... Owner

Betting.—Evens on Roger ; 2 to 1 against David, and Advance ; 5 to 1 Gay Lord Quex.

The Race.—David 12d out with Roger next and Advance third and they ran in this order up to the home turn where Roger drew level with the leader, but did not last farther than the distance where David drew away winning easily by 4 lengths; Advance beating Roger on the rails by 1½ lengths. Time 2 mins. 59½ secs.

The totalizator paid rupees five.

THE BIRSANDRA CHASE.

For horses the property of the Royal Artillery Officers, steeplechase course :—

Mr. C W Spink's Gauder 11st. 7lbs. ..... Owner 1
Mr E W Spink's Gander 11st 7lbs. ..... Owner 2
Mr H Corne's Boris 11st. 7lbs. ..... Owner 3
Mr Burnes' Satan 11st. 7lbs. ..... Owner 4
Major Hobson's Ginger 11st. 7lbs. ..... Owner 5

Betting—4 to 1 on Gauder 2 to 1 against Boris, 5 to 1 Satan, 10 to 1 Ginger.

The Race.—Gauder led all the way round and won easily by 4 lengths; distance between second and third Time 3 mins. 40-2-5 secs.

The totalizator paid rupees three.

The Arab Polo Scurry.

Handicap Horses. 2 furlongs :—

Colonel Connally's Mauser 12st.
Mr Spink's 1
Captain White's Charley II 12st. Major ..... Barnard 2
Captain Walker's Dus 10st. ..... Major Tottenham 3

Also Ran :—Menam 10st. 5lbs. Glamour 10st., Snooker 10st, Grand Master 10st.

Betting.—Evens on Mauser, 2 to 1 Against Charley II, 3 to 1 Dus and Glamour ; 4 to 1 Snooker, 5 to 1 Menam, 8 to 1 Grand Master.

The Race.—For the first furlong the field kept together, but Mauser soon had the field beaten winning easily by 2 lengths in front of Charley. Time 2½ secs.

This totalizator paid rupees three.

THE CHARGER STAKES.

Handicap for *bona fide* chargers, ½ mile.

Captain Mundy's Coriolin 12st 9lbs. ..... Owner 1
Mr S. W. R. Memburn's Porte 11st 2lb Mr. Woodhouse 2
Mr. T. C. King's Ginger 10st 8lbs. ..... Owner 3

Also ran :— Bobbery Jack 11st 3lbs., Conundrum st 11 5lbs, Tina 12st.

Betting.—2 to 1 on Coriolin, 2 to 1 against Porthos 3 to 1 Tina, 5 to 1 Bobbery Jack and Conundrum, 8 to 1 Ginger.

Won easily by 3 Lengths, two Lengths between second and third. Time 59 secs.

The totalizator did not pay.

OPEN POLO SCURRY.

Handicap for *bona fide* polo ponies, 2 furlongs :—

Mr. Gwyer's Tam Ring 13st. 7lbs. ..... Major Barnard 1
Major Hobson's Master 10st. 13lbs. ..... Owner 2
Mr. Bridge's Lady 10st. ..... Major Tottenham 3

Also ran.—Tom Tucker 10st. 12lbs, Capt. Howard, Gills Blucher 10st. 11b., Ali Beg 10st.

Betting.—4 to 1 on Tam Ring, 2 to 1 against Tom Tucker, 4 to 1 Ali Beg, 10 to 1 the rest.

Won easily by 3 Lengths ; neck between second and third. Time 29 4-5 secs.

No totalizator.

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE.

For health, beauty and luxury, use the "Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap," which Lady Constance Howard writes, "is pleasant to use and whitens and softens the Skin." Also Testimonials from Countess Bathurst, Lady White, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Dorothy Nevill and many others, Delicately perfumed. Warning.—When buying the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap see that the name and figure head of "Albion" are on the wrapper sold by Chemists

AN INVESTMENT.

Pure Wool Clothing is the soundest investment possible, for the return secured is certain—comfort and health. To wear shoddy or cotton mixtures is to plunge into rash speculation, alluring on account of its initial cheapness, but bound to bring disaster eventually in the shape of ruined health.

FOR NOTHING !

We send you free of charge on application samples of any of our celebrated "LALIMLI" Pure Wool fabrics. They include Flannels, Serges, Broadcloths, Tweeds, Worsted Coatings, Homespuns, Friezes, Costume Cloths, besides Blankets, Servants' Clothing, Horse Clothing, Lohis (Shawls), Socks, Jerseys, Cardigans, Sanitary Grey Underwear, &c., &c.

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(UNDER EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.)

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Perfection of Fit.
Prompt Delivery.

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Best and Cheapest Remedies
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Free samples to medical men and Hospitals.

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5,000 Tons of STEEL BEAM in all Sections and Weights,
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STEEL ANGLES, TEES,
PLATES, CAST-IRON PIPES,
GALVANIZED CORRUGATED-IRON SHEET
Kept in Stock, ready for delivery.
Full particulars and prices from
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NEW PREMISES,
HORNBY ROAD.

NOTIFICATION.

ADVANCE IN PRICE.

OWING to the very great rise in Price of all raw materials and the demand for higher wages, Messrs SCHIEDMAYER & SOEHNE, the celebrated Stuttgart Pianoforte Manufacturers, have been compelled, and very reluctantly, to notify us their Indian Agents, of the fact of their decision to increase the prices of the various models of pianos which they specially manufacture for the Climate of India.

Messrs. SCHIEDMAYER & SOEHNE maintain that even the small increased cost is more than compensated for by the comparatively superior quality of their pianos of which they have so consistently supplied the public of this country for over 60 years.

Messrs. SCHIEDMAYER & SOEHNE quite appreciate the fact that pianos can be and are constructed in competition for cheapness in price, but as cheapness can only be brought about at the cost of durability and at the cost of those musical qualities so much admired in their pianos by true Artists, they prefer, therefore, to maintain the honour of their name rather than descend to reducing the quality of the beautiful instruments which have won for them a forward position in the Advance Guard of Pianoforte Manufacturers of the World and unquestionably the most prominent positions in this country for the *Most Perfect Pianos For India.*

INCREASE IN PRICE.

SCHIEDMAYER & SOEHNE'S

Standard Sympathetic Indian Cottage Piano, Rs. 780 increased to Rs. 825.

On the deferred system. { For 12 months Rs. 71 per month, increased to Rs. 75. For 24 months Rs. 38-12 per month, increased to Rs. 41.

SCHIEDMAYER & SOEHNE'S

Standard Indian Horizontal Grand Piano Rs. 1,200, increased to Rs. 1,275.

On the deferred system. { For 12 months Rs. 109, increased to Rs. 117. For 24 months Rs. 59-4, increased to Rs. 64.

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THE SOLE AGENTS.
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THE CHOICE
OF A
PIANO.

The chief points to bear in mind when choosing a Piano are, firstly, to select an instrument which in every way meets your musical requirements and, secondly, to make sure the piano you select will continue to give you every satisfaction. In other words, nothing but a good Piano can be of any use to you.

S. ROSE & Co., can give you a selection of the BEST PIANOS imported into India on special terms for Cash, for Hire, or on the Easy payment system.

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CRUSHED HORSE FOOD best in the market, Rs. 5-8-0 per cwt. delivered free in Bombay, Special Mixtures, Bran, Gram, Barley, New Zealand Oats Australian Chaff, Pressed Hay, etc., supplied at lowest rates consistent with good quality.

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Correspondence invited.

NOTICE.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR will HOLD a RECEPTION at GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MALABAR POINT, on MONDAY, the 7th January, 1907, at 10 p. m.

All Naval and Military Officers and Gentlemen, European and Native, who attended the Levee, or were entitled and unavoidably prevented, are entitled, together with the Ladies of their Families, to attend the Reception.

(For further particulars, see Bombay Government Gazette Extraordinary, Part I dated 20th December, 1906.)

F. LEE, Major,
Military Secretary to H. E. The Governor.
2nd January, 1907.

LONDON IN BOMBAY.
LONDON IN BOMBAY
LONDON IN BOMBAY.

BUCHANAN'S
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SCOTCH WHISKY
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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** All communications of a literary character should be addressed to THE EDITOR, and all communications regarding Advertisements and Business matters generally should be addressed to the GENERAL MANAGER. Communications should not be addressed to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette.

FRIDAY, JAN. 4, 1907.

THE AMIR'S VISIT.

THE King-Emperor has wired a characteristically cordial message to the potentate who, on Wednesday, crossed the border and has become our guest. The Amir has never before travelled outside the limits of his State A King in his own country, but only recognised as the equivalent of a ruling Prince by India; "His Majesty" in Afghanistan, "His Highness" with us, a correspondent of the Government of India, not of the Foreign Office—it would almost appear as though he were hereafter to be as a sovereign, as though the King's message presages that henceforward the higher dignity shall be conceded—even perhaps that he shall be permitted a representative at the Court of St. James instead of at the head-quarters of the Government of India. If not, why should not the formal greeting have been addressed to His Highness by the Viceroy and Governor-General of India? Why should King Edward VII. have accorded our visitor a welcome such as he would have addressed to a European Sovereign on landing at Portsmouth or Dover? The Mikado might have expected this greeting, but we doubt very much if the Amir anticipated a communication so friendly and of such happy augury immediately after crossing the imaginary line which separates his country from ours. It will be regarded as auspicious by the Amir and his following as well as by the co-religionists of His Highness throughout India. It will do much, too, to remove the suspicions of the Amir's subjects, who saw no cause or justification for his travels and would fain have interposed to prevent them but that His Highness was determined to see the land on the other side of the passes and to draw his own conclusions as to the strength and affluence of the neighbouring territory, of which he had heard so much from his father Abdur Rahman and his younger brother whose visit to England may be regarded as marking a new era in the history of Afghan civilisation. Moreover, Abdur Rahman commended to Habibulla, the Beloved of God, the careful perusal of "the book, called *Anwari-Suheili*, which aided by a little common-sense and precaution will be of very great use. But to foresee the feelings and motives of all neighbouring Powers and to realise the difference between friends and enemies, requires in addition to the Intelligence Department and a study of the above-mentioned documents and book a great deal of thought and consideration also. All the studies in the world will not make a ripe and clever statesman." The necessity for foreign travel with a view to the acquisition of knowledge was recognised by the late Amir when he sent Nasrullah Khan to Europe.

As for political aspect of our intercourse with Afghanistan it is impossible to attach too much importance. He will have opportunities of studying India and its institutions as well as the strength of military forces on this side of the border, though the display of troops, wherever His Highness goes, will bring to his memory the apologue which Mr. S. S. Thorburn related of the late Amir—"A swan," observed Abdur Rahman, "was once swimming in a pond watched with hungry eyes from one bank by a pack of wolves, and from the other by an old tigress. From fright or curiosity, the swan incautiously approached the latter. The tigress clawed at him and tore out some of his feathers. In his distress, he swam over to the other bank where the wolves made a rush and would have torn him to pieces, had he not escaped into deep water. Finding himself secure he resolved to confine his movements to the middle of the pond. There, resting at ease he noticed how the wolves snarled at each other and how very shallow the water was near the edge. He reflected that were the pond to dry up, the tigress might and the wolves certainly would devour him." His Highness is taking his chances with the tigress—"an old tigress" at the moment, and he may take it for granted she will not even try to tear him, not though she show him how sharp and strong her claws still remain. He may be led to see that our intentions are very amicable and that even when we ask for the extension of the railway to Khandahar and the installation of telegraphic communication between Kabul and Herat and British India, we are urging nothing but what would profit the Amir and Afghanistan as much as England or the Government of India. Yet Abdur Rahman left a solemn injunction against this—until his army could protect his country by its own unaided efforts. What was promised Afghanistan was protection from interference by foreign powers and that if any foreign power should attempt to interfere in Afghanistan and if such interference should lead to unprovoked aggression on the dominions of His Highness, in that event the British Government would be prepared to aid him to such an extent and in such manner as may appear to the British Government necessary, in repelling it, provided that His Highness follows unreservedly the advice of the British Government in regard to his external relations. His Highness cannot fail to realise that we are in every way competent to fulfil for him the promise we made to his father and that efficiency of our forces is no mere empty boast.

Among our Mahomedan friends we gather, an impression is abroad that the visit is to some extent connected with the Pan-Islamic movement and that the Amir will have something to say to them on matters concerning their religion. They point to the draft itinerary as an indication of a desire to come into contact with Muslimism in India. Well, the Amir is a follower of Mahomed and a consistent one at that. "For the maintenance of a Kingdom," wrote Abdur Rahman, "and the strength and prosperity of a nation, religion is a very great factor; a nation without a religious belief would soon become demoralised and begin to decline, until it fell altogether. The Muslims are brave, because they have always been very strict in religious observances and staunch in following the rules of their faith." And again: "Unity in Islam is the first cause or motto of its strength—'Do not ye know what blessings the true faith of Islam has awarded to you, inviting your scattered tribes and communities into one brotherhood?" But His Highness knows full well the truth of the saying of Abdur Rahman that "the country of Afghanistan is a mere spot under the compass of two infidels." Yet he is well aware that "one from the East and the other from the West," will not "by various artifices possess themselves of our country," unless there be some reason very different from religious antipathy for taking up arms and endeavouring to overthrow the present *regime*. We have no hesitation in saying that the Amir will greatly disappoint his co-religionists inclined to Pan-Islamism, if they expect him to preach disloyalty to their "infidel" rulers. He may, or may not, speak words of encouragement to Mahomedans and bid them adhere strictly to the tenets of their religion, but he will not refer to political matters except such as refer to himself and his own country particularly—and that not within hearing of the general public. What His Highness may have to say will be addressed to the Viceroy and the political agents deputed to attend him on his journey. He will have much more to study than Pan-Islamism during the next few weeks and we think he will be more puzzled as to how best to observe his promises to Abdur Rahman as regards railways and other means of communication and the methods best calculated to secure the advancement of Afghanistan than in the matters which trouble Turkey and Egypt. He will devote much more thought to the "little piece of sandy desert between Kandahar, Baluchistan, Persia and part of Karachi," for hich Abdur Rahman entertained a great fancy—"unimportant at present but of great value if annexed to Afghanistan in order to bring the country in touch with the Ocean."

THE REVIVAL OF PAGEANTRY. The age of chivalry may be dead, but the love of the picturesque which distinguished the middle ages is not quite extinct, and the Sherborne pageant of a few years ago and the Warwick pageant of last year promise to be greatly emulated in the future. At any rate at least two of the most interesting cities in England will this summer provide reproductions of historic scenes which should delight the heart of the archæologist and the student of other times. A pretty rivalry, too, is likely to be brought about between academic Oxford and monastic St. Albans, both of which ancient cities are engaged in the planning of scenes from their own history, to be held on the very sites of the occurrences to be celebrated, in the month of June next. Arrangements are at present in a more or less embryonic stage, but it is certain that for brilliancy of execution and accuracy of detail the Oxford undertaking will out-Warwick Warwick. For the civic side of the affair the Mayor has addressed a manifesto to the citizens of Oxford announcing that, with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor, Proctors, and other University authorities, an historical pageant arranged with all the expert assistance which can be secured, will be produced on a lavish scale for the Commemoration of 1907. The finance will be entirely in the hands of citizens, while the historical, archæological, and artistic side of the production will be looked after by the leading authorities in the University on such matters. This arrangement, considering the strictures of the late Mr. Rhodes on the capacity of University Dons in the matter of business, is just as it should be. A long list of gentlemen have promised their help, and among them are:—Professor Firth, Regius Professor of Modern History; Professor Oman, Chichele Professor of Modern History; Professor Raleigh, Professor of English Literature; Lord Dillon, Curator of the Tower Armouries, and of the British Museum, and Trustee of the National Portrait Gallery; the Rev. F. E. Brightman, Vice-President of Magdalen; the Rev. W. H. Hutton, Fellow and Tutor of St. John's; Mr. F. Madan, Assistant Librarian of the Bodleian; Mr. E. de Selincourt, University Lecturer in Modern English Literature; Mr. R. S. Rait, Fellow of New College, President of the Oxford Historical Society; the Rev. Andrew Clark, Deputy Registrar of the University; the Rev. Hastings Rashdall, Fellow of New College, and many others, whose names stand as household words in matters of historical and archæological knowledge. With such an array of "talent" the Oxford pageant should want some beating. But we have an idea that St. Albans will do as well. In the matter of antiquity, of course, Oxford is a mushroom by comparison, and centuries before the reputed nine monks commenced teaching at the hamlet of Oxenfoord on the banks of the Thame-sis, and thus laid the foundations of the premier University, St. Albans, or Verulamium hard by, was a populous Roman city. But we shall see what we shall see. Anyhow, all Englishmen with a soft place in their hearts for the England of our ancestors cannot fail to be deeply interested in the revival of pageantry.

AMERICA AND JAPAN. SAN FRANCISCO will probably find far more point in the meeting held at Canton, at which it was resolved to boycott American goods as a protest against the Exclusion Act, than in the diplomatic protests of Japan. Briefly put it amounts to this, that if America is unable to control California then she has to lose both the Asiatic population and the Asiatic trade, a very valuable feature in America's annual turn-over. America has brought the trouble on herself and will find few to offer pity for such a forcible retort. According to the *Times* the trouble at San Francisco is growing and has grown from the schools into a full fledged labour question. This means that the fruit trade is affected. Californian growers recently stated in the most emphatic manner that the Japanese were the saviours of the State; were they to be excluded in favour of white labour, then a Pickers' Union would result and the trade be ruined. This is the opinion of the cultivators, but that of the town seems to be different. President Roosevelt has stated his intentions, and the time may be coming when he will have to put them into operation—an event which will raise the racial question to a degree never before known. Far from being overawed by the embarrassment which their action has caused to the Federal Government the Californians appear to appreciate the position they have brought about. With regard to the Japanese, public feeling has been roused very generally among all sections of the population of San Francisco. On the one hand fear of competition has spurred trade unions into uncompromising hostility towards a people who live to work rather than work to live, while in higher ranks of society considerable resentment is shown against the intrusion of wealthy Japanese into certain residential quarters where they have offered higher rents than Americans have been prepared to pay. In these circumstances San Francisco was in no mood to listen to President Roosevelt. For a similar affair it is only necessary to recall the maltreatment of Italian subjects by one of the Southern States. It was made the subject of diplomatic negotiations between the Quirinal and Washington, but nothing could be done and no redress has ever been given. Once more the machinery of State seems to be insufficient for the purpose and stronger methods than argument have been threatened. Force of arms can only be employed as a last resort but it is clear that the country will not allow the treaties which it has made, to be violated by the caprice of a small portion of its inhabitants.

THE LAW'S DELAYS. LITIGIOUS people in this country, who complain of the Law's delays, may peruse with interest an item in the pages of the new number of *The Lawyer*. It records the conclusion of a 444-year old law-suit and tells us that the two villages of Luceran and Lancoque, in the Alpes-Maritimes, France, kept up a day recently as a public holiday to celebrate the end of the great law-suit which had kept the two villages divided since Nov. 14th, 1462. The question in dispute was the possession of a piece of land at Lova, which each village claimed. A few days ago the court at Nice definitely settled the matter by dividing the land equally between the villages. The total cost of this law-suit during the 444 years amounted to £30,000 while the value of the land in dispute was about £400. The law papers which had accumulated were docketted in 1,856 parcels, which weighed sixteen tons, and were stored in a large, disused church. India cannot yet beat this.

THE Maharaja of Baroda leaves Calcutta for Baroda on Saturday.

THE Anchor Line s. s. Scindia homeward bound arrived at Suez on Thursday the 3rd instant.

IT has been finally decided to erect Sir John Woodburn's statue in Dalhousie Square facing the main entrance to Writer's Buildings.

THE P. and O. Company's s. s. Caledonia with the homeward mails of the 29th ultimo arrived at Aden at 4-30 p.m. on Wednesday.

THE P. and O. Company's s. s. Britannia with the outward mails of the 28th ultimo left Suez at 7 a.m. on Thursday.

THE Austrian Lloyd's chartered s. s. Istok from Trieste left Karachi for Bombay and is due here on the 6th instant at daybreak.

THE N. Y. K. steamer Kagoshima Maru left Singapore for Hongkong on the 31st ultimo and s. s. Bombay Maru left Hongkong for Singapore yesterday.

THE new Commander of the flagship "Hermes," Commander R. C. Kemble Lambert, arrived at Colombo on the 28th ultimo by the P. and O. s.s. "Malacca," by which vessel he proceeded to Calcutta.

IN our advertisement columns will be found postal instructions as to arrangements made for civil camps to be formed at Agra on the occasion of the visit to the Amir.

A GENIUS has been at work on a difficult problem in the accounts of the B. B. and C. I. Railway up to June last. The knotty point was the Chaplain's salary (Parel). The difficulty arose through the fact that there was no such thing to record as the Chaplain's salary either last year or the year before. In the end it appears as an unclassified expenditure" and there the problem is transferred to the public. How can an account which does not exist be audited?

THE Natal emigrant steamer Umhloti, which arrived at Colombo on the 28th ultimo from Durban, reported eleven deaths of Indian immigrants which occurred on board within 13 days. The deaths were all from non-infectious diseases, The Umhloti is licensed to convey 615 emigrants, and when she started on her voyage, she had on board about 565 immigrants, the majority of whom were invalids returning to India.

THE total number of deaths registered in Bombay during the week ending January 1st was 651, giving a death-rate of 41·94 per annum per thousand as against 41·61 the corresponding period of last year, and 51·59 the average over the past five years. Of the total number, 64 died from fevers; 13, plague; 1, measles; 8, cholera; 1, leprosy; 41, phthisis; 36, diseases of the nervous system; 196, affections of the respiratory organs; 42, diarrhœa; 28, dysentery; 25, still-born; 82, old age and debility; 8, accidents and violence. The classified list of deaths shows:—Jain, 19; Brahmin, 23; Lingaet, 4; Bhattia, 4; Hindu of other caste, 274; Hindu low caste, 77; Musalman, 160; Parsee, 29; Jew, 2; Native Christian 25; Eurasian, 3; European, 6. The total number of births was 410 as against 595 the corresponding period of last year, and 396 the average over the past five years.

A Novelty in the Shape of Christmas postcards has been issued by the East Indian Railway. It shows by means of two simple diagrams the progress of the line in the past ten years. The charges for passengers and goods have steadily declined since 1896, until at the present time the average charge per passenger is equivalent to only one penny for each five miles, while a ton of goods is carried three miles for the same sum. These figures serve to show how very cheap is the railway tariff in this country, compared with rates at Home. The increase in traffic has been enormous. In 1897 the passenger "Unit miles" were less than twelve hundreds of millions, now they exceed seventeen. In the same period the "ton miles" in the case of goods were under seventeen hundreds of millions, now they exceed twenty six. There is no other railway in India which can show results at all comparable with these though the North Western State line has had a good record since the development of the export trade in wheat and cotton from the Canal colonies of the Punjab.

A RATHER curious instance of official vacillation has been brought to our notice by a correspondent, as instanced by the following facts: In February 1904, the Superintendent of Stationery, Bombay, issued a letter No. 1548 of 26th February, 1904, addressed to a firm of fireproof Safe Manufacturers stating, that "in a communication . . . . , forwarded for information to Government officers, the names of the different manufacturers of Safes had been given and that it was stated that Safes of their manufacture were equal in finish to those imported from England." Nothing supervened on this until under date the 31st October, 1906, the said firm received a memo. referring to the previous orders and communication and stating that "the list had been abolished." It is stated that another firm has been selected, which, by the way, is not similarly accredited in regard to their Safes being "equal in finish to those imported from England," so that, though the list is "abolished," the comparison in favour of the firm addressed, for no reason that is apparent, in the manner indicated, remains untainted. Query, what is the cause and what is the effect desired to be produced.

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IN LIGHTER VEIN.

IF I WERE A MILLIONAIRE,

BY

WILLIAM LE QUEUX.

(*Author of "Secrets of the Foreign Office," &c.*)

"If I were a millionaire!" How often and devoutly is this wish uttered with a sigh of longing by the poor and the wealthy alike. In every walk of life and in every corner of the civilised world, the fierce and frantic struggle for wealth continues, and the money-making schemers, commercial men and speculators, little and big, have their eyes constantly turned to that golden goal which may some day render them millionaires. Apart from the power which a million of money gives its possessor, there is a glamour over the millionaire, a glamour created for the most part by the modern novelist. The average writer of fiction usually portrays the millionaire as a hog—"road" or otherwise—and in doing so he is in a great measure responsible for conveying an entirely false impression. As a rule millionaires are by no means the blatant parvenus which novelists depict.

It has been my fortune to know several, both in England and on the Continent. I have stayed in their country-houses, I have fed at their tables, and I have played bridge with their friends. I admit that, as a rule, the millionaire's "place in the country" usually betrays evidence of wealth on every hand. The mansion, or hall, or castle is filled with antiques, the gallery contains priceless paintings, the furniture is superb, and the fittings exquisite. Indeed, I once slept in a bedroom, the mahogany door of which had long hinges of silver! Yet, surrounded as he is by luxury, the millionaire himself is usually one of the most modest of men. The fair sex will pardon me if I speak openly. But from my own observation I have come to the conclusion that it is his woman-kind, strenuously struggling to get into the highest set, who place him in a false position which is misunderstood by the public.

THE ARISTOCRACY OF MAMMON.

In England to-day money opens the doors of every set in society. Knighthoods, baronetcies and peerages are merely a question of purchase in the right manner. The fair sex are well aware of it. Usually the successful business man, after amassing his fortune, is only too eager to retire and live in peace. But his wife is anxious to be called "my lady," and hence we have springing up about us and increasing every day a new aristocracy—the aristocracy of Mammon.

That possession of money does not buy happiness is a trite saying, but a very true one. I recollect one evening, not very long ago, walking on the promenade at San Remo with a slightly-built grey-faced American, who is reputed to be one of the three richest men in the world, and the possessor of I know not how many millions. He was speaking of one of my novels in which I had portrayed a millionaire, and our conversation turned upon the benefits to be derived from great wealth. "Money!" he exclaimed, snapping his thin bony fingers contemptuously. "Money!—what has it brought me? Only a heavy burden of worry and responsibility—a tie from which I can never release myself. I came to Europe alone—without a servant—as you see me now—in order to try and get away from it all. And yet I cannot glance at a newspaper without its financial column causing me worry and the necessity of sending a cable to the other side. No. Depend upon it, the man who is best off is the man who has affluence and domestic comfort combined. I've never met a millionaire who was a happy man. The man of moderate means is best off by far."

To those who are not particularly well off, this remark will appear somewhat one sided, for be it as it may, money is a very happy thing to possess. Personally, I would have no objection to trying the life of a millionaire as an interesting experiment. Imagine yourself the possessor of a million! What would you do? How would you act?

Two courses only would be open—the social or the philanthropic.

WHAT YOU CAN BUY.

Let us first consider the social advantages which a million pounds would secure. Newspaper paragraphs would first set the machinery of society door-opening in motion. You would be chronicled as being present at Lady So-and-So's dance, and at Lady What's-her-name's dinner-party. The society columns would tell of your presence at Ranelagh, Goodwood and Cowes. At the latter you chartered a yacht for the week and entertained a few of the needy aristocracy with "good names." Now these "good names" are utterly indispensable. They cost little, and will give tone to your future society career. After, say, one season, you suddenly discover that you must side with a political party, and in doing so make a generous donation to the party funds. Thus the trick is accomplished, and in the next list of Birthday Honours you will be agreeably surprised—or at least you will appear to be—to find that His Majesty has created you a Baronet of the United Kingdom! Or, if your contributions to the political purse have been sufficiently large, you will find yourself a real Baron, with full liberty to choose your own title.

That day's papers will descant upon what they vaguely put as the inestimable services you have rendered your country; upon your marvellous business acumen, your brilliant achievement and the high esteem in which you are held in the political world. But they, of course, dare not hint that you have purchased your title comparatively as easily as you might purchase a six-roomed cottage. Oh! no. The public, unaware of your excessive wealth, will believe you to be a great and patriotic Englishman.

YOUR WORST DOWNFALL.

And what will follow? As Lord Limehouse you will purchase a fitting estate in the country, a neat house in Mayfair, and perhaps rent from one of your "good names," who helped you along at first, a shooting estate with "a mile or two of salmon" in the Highlands. Then will commence the game—the life-game of the millionaire—especially if your wife is ambitious and has an eye on the select circle into which even duchesses enter.

You will entertain royally. You will invite to your great mansion in the country anybody and everybody with a title, no matter what be their moral reputation. The latter does not count now-a-days. The more scandal hanging round the name of a woman, the more popular is she sure to be. So you close your ears—and also your eyes for the matter of that—and allow your guests to have a thoroughly good time at your expense. And by so doing you will be sustaining your position as a peer of the realm, and carrying on the old traditions of a peer's hospitality. Time was when, on giving a ball, you hired chairs for your guests to sit upon; now you hire your titled guests to sit upon the chairs.

By this time, however, the scales will have fallen from your eyes, and you have begun to realise into what a vortex of mockery, shams and irreligion you have been drawn. In the old days, when you were still in business, it was your pride always to mix with people whose reputations were unblemished. In your own suburban world of those days your wife, if she heard a breath of scandal concerning a female friend, promptly made excuses for not receiving her. You gave many dinner-parties, all very decorous; you discouraged cards afterwards and gambling was strictly prohibited, for were you not one of the pillars of your church to which you went with reverence each Sunday?

In these days, before gold fell upon you in showers, you endeavoured to live up to a high standard of business morality. You gleaned sidelights from Society through the matrimonial cases in the papers, and you openly expressed disgust and contempt. Standing now in your own fine ballroom while your brilliant crowds are waltzing, your own well-remembered denunciations come back to you and cause you just a slight twinge of conscience. You compare those days with today. When you were plain Mr. So-and-So, you could not afford to offend the *convenances*. But now you are Baron Limehouse, and possessor of a historic castle and the biggest estate in Worcestershire, a personal friend of the Prime Minister, and the owner of a few well-known race horses, you can snap your fingers at everyone and everybody. Some of the titled women who are your guests would, you know, never be admitted to your strict suburban circle. Yet does that matter to your wife, or to yourself? They are amusing and they are daughters of aristocrats. For you that is all sufficient. Yours is a life of pleasure, as you mean it to be. The world thinks you a great and famous man—which you are not. You are lucky—that's all. And the people you entertain and lend money to are glad to snap up the crumbs from the rich man's table, though they jeer and poke fun at you behind your back and call your fine castle "The Meat Safe" merely because you chanced to be a meat contractor and made your money over the Boer War.

LEARN TO DO GOOD.

And the other course—the philanthropic one? If, instead of cultivating the social side, you retire with your millions, live quietly and devote your attention to philanthropy, you will be an exception. But pause for a moment and consider the wide scope for your efforts. I think that if I were a millionaire and able to resist the allurements of the glare and glitter of Society, I should endeavour in the first place to try and alleviate the sufferings of the deserving poor—the poor who are too proud to beg. In many a house in a big town, where the curtains are immaculate, the steps scrupulously clean, and the door knocker shining, is a starving widow or a decrepit man in a solitary back room. People die in London of starvation every day—fatal illnesses brought on by want of food. These people are too proud to ask for alms, or to receive charity from the parish. There is already too much charity for the undeserving and thriftless poor. Of workhouses we want less. We want homes for middle class widows where they would not be pauperised, and hospitals to which people could go without feeling that they were existing on charity. The lower classes are adequately, and even luxuriously, catered for with all their parks, and baths, and washhouses, and libraries, and evening classes and all the paraphernalia attending them. But the deserving middle-class, the great struggling mass of our urban population, are almost entirely neglected.

If the wife of a small tradesman needs a surgical operation, where is she to go, if not to a hospital to be herded with the lower class? True, she may have a private room, and pay. But a hospital "supported by voluntary contributions" is still a hospital, and many a man and woman will rather die than go to one, so great is the public prejudice. Adequate nursing homes, properly endowed, where the charge to the patient would be a nominal one are very sorely needed, and should be strongly urged upon the millionaire who is desirous of benefiting his fellow creatures.

GOD OR MAMMON.

Again, widows' homes—little flats of three rooms—distinct from our almshouses, are also much needed for the middle-classes. These homes should be bright, roomy and comfortable, and in the town, so that the widow may have an opportunity of seeing her children and relatives. Such establishments would be an inestimable boon in every town, and would surely be of greater benefit than this wholesale scattering of free-libraries like pepper from a pepper-box. Of education, the lower classes have surely enough and more than enough. Let the future millionaire philanthropist turn his attention to the deserving sick, and to the aged "who have seen better days" and whom the country councils, in all their wisdom, disregard and pass by.

Let the man of millions choose. Will he tolerate the hollow shams of what is known as "the smart set" with all their immorality, their open atheism, their feigned friendship and their constant demands for little loans? Or will he make quiet, unostentatious efforts for the benefit of his fellow-creatures, for the alleviation of the dire poverty and suffering so apparent on every hand, and the securing of a simple competency to elderly women who, after lives of comfort, suddenly find themselves, by God's will, bereft of both husband and of the wherewithal to live?

If the man of millions believes in holy writ, he will surely not be long in making up his mind which of these two paths he must follow.

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MAHABLESHWAR AT CHRISTMAS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MAHABLESHWAR, JANUARY 1.

Christmas has been somewhat of a disappointment in the matter of cold, and there has been a "mutinous spirit abroad" among the holiday makers. The fire-places were all gaping for logs but rain came and so tempered the air that, except for a few bracing days, we felt quite defrauded of Mahableshwar's principal and most precious commodity—cold. The cold has been nothing like, *e.g.*, that of Gujerat at Christmas. However, the views have been magnificent, and almost every day the sun might be watched setting in a good broad strip of sea.

Apropos, forest conservation seems to have gone a little too far on the roads. Until one reaches a "point," and even at some of the points, little can be seen now for miles of anything but trees, and the result is "too much of a good thing." A few gaps, at any rate, along the roads, to let one occasionally see the view and where one is, would be a benefit.

In spite of ubiquitous placards proclaiming "Bungalow to let," the visitors, some thirty in number, are said to have been many for Christmas, owing to the motor-car service, and they have, on the whole, been grave and reverend "seniors." Our important persons have included, besides Sir Archibald Hunter, Sir Steyning Edgerley, Mr. Aston, late Justice, the Hon. Mr. Heaton, and the Hon. Mr. Basil Scott. There has been little gaiety or sport of a conspicuous kind, though perhaps there has been none the less content. Even golf has not flourished, and the little boys cry: "*Saheb gahp, gahp khelne ka ?*" mostly in vain.

Lord Kitchener was here before Christmas, and paid a flying visit in a motor-car to Satara, the result of which is said to be likely to be the reconstitution of a garrison at Satara.

There is not much heard of big game being shot, though "kills" have been tied up in likely places. The Superintendent, Major Burnett I. M. S., lately shot a tiger, but it got away. At the Medha kacheri, on the Satara road, is exhibited the best part of a fine tiger which was shot near Bamnoli by an old Maratha, and was later found half eaten by other beasts. The unfortunate shikari, who pleaded that he shot the tiger by the orders of the police, was tried for a breach of the forest license rules.

One extraordinary and welcome thing strikes one at once on the Hill, and that is the careful observance by cartmen of the rule of the road. No doubt the motors are responsible. Mahableshwar remains free of plague, though plague rages in the valleys, and though the Mahableshwar bazaar is becoming a big and not completely clean place. The arrangements for keeping plague out are certainly excellent and thorough, without being harassing. Detention camps and police posts guard all the roads and paths into the station, and through cart-traffic is escorted by policemen, yet the surveillance system works without annoyance.

Have you, Mr. Editor, ever had a castor-oil bath? I have been subjected to something like it here, owing to the "bhisti" having chosen to soften his "mussacks" with the precious oil. No doubt he thinks himself somewhat of a general benefactor by his unctuous conduct, and the servants, at any rate, welcome the delicate flavour in their drinking water, and think they have had some free doctoring; but I am not so grateful!

It is well-known that the Beckwith monument here, next to the Church, is habitually worshipped, but I did not expect to find before it the offerings I observed the other day. Besides the usual flowers and cocoanuts, there were sugar, rice and meat (served on a piece of Whiteaway and Laidlaw's catalogue), fragments of glass (perhaps once containing drink), and, finally, a whole cheroot and matches. I did not find the cheroot on a second visit, so perhaps a jackal had removed it with the meat! No doubt Christmas is thought a specially favourable time for approaching the deified Governor Saheb.

MR. JOHN MURRAY; in an interesting article on "A Publisher, in Peace Time," in the "Contemporary Review," quotes the following two curious requests he received from abroad:—"An England Book-shop John Murray, Albemarle-street, London, W. Pray, procure and send me a catalogue of any one englisch upholsterer's-shop. I write to you, because I do not know other englisch address in London, except your book-shop." "For my information I wish to have the prescription concerning 'transportable field-kitchens,' as they are used in the English army, if this prescription is not secret in the army I may beg you to write me."

THE AMIR'S VISIT.

ARRIVAL AT LANDI KOTAL.

Message of Welcome from the King.

LONDON PRESS OPINIONS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, JANUARY 2.

King Edward has telegraphed to the Amir as follows: "Your visit affords me great gratification as indicating the friendly relations existing between your Majesty and my Government. I cordially hope your tour will be a pleasant relief from the cares of State."

LONDON, JANUARY 3.

The *Standard* in a leading article says:—"A great deal depends upon the impressions which the Amir receives in India. With most Asiatic Sovereigns personal impressions matter more than treaties. There is, happily, no doubt that Lord Minto's kindly tact will prove as efficacious as Lord Mayo's large-hearted sympathy or Lord Dufferin's polished diplomacy. The *Standard* hopes that the Amir will return, convinced that the integrity and independence of Afghanistan is an essential part of our plans for securing our own frontiers."

The *Morning Post* says. "The Amir's visit cannot be divested of political importance. The Amir is bound to receive strong impressions, nor will the population of India be unconscious of the friendly relations which the visit evidences. Perhaps it is a happy coincidence that simultaneously with the visit of a neighbouring Mahemedan Sovereign, the Mahomedans of India have made a beginning of political organizations. As regards their educational aspirations, the educators of to-day are wiser than the early Victorians. To them, Moslems will not appeal in vain if they ask for a system of education not calculated to estrange their sons from the permanent and vital traditions of Indian life, and of that Islam which, if wisely treated, must be a source of strength to the Indian Government."

The *Daily Mail* says—"The Amir will be welcomed as a loyal ally and the visit must contribute to the further improvement of our relations."

The *Daily Express* says—"It is greatly to be hoped that the visit will lead to a settlement of Anglo-Afghan relations on a definitely satisfactory basis. There is reason to believe that a policy of liberality and consideration, combined with firmness will effect the desired result."

The Liberal newspapers make no comment on the visit.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.)

AMIR'S CAMP, LANDI KOTAL, JANUARY 2.

His Highness the Amir arrived at Landi Kota at 12-50 to-day when a salute was fired. He was met at the Landi Khana frontier station by Sir Henry McMahon, Mr. H. S. Dobbs, Foreign Department, Major Roos Keppel and others, of the Political Staff. The Amir shook hands with the British Officers and was handed the telegram of welcome from the King-Emperor. The Amir then had lunch and during the afternoon visited the Muirhead Wireless Telegraphic Installation at Landi Kotal, inspecting the working.

The arrangements of the Entertainment Committee, under the supervision of Fakir Syed Iftikar-ud-din are working well. The Amir has brought his own *chefs* and the materials for his cuisine are furnished by the Entertainment Committee. His Highness' Bodyguard, and band of pipes and brass instruments accompany the column. The camp is guarded by the Khyber Rifles and the surrounding neights are picketted. There are no British Troops at Landi Kotal.

ARRIVAL AT JAMRUD.

JAMRUD, JANUARY 3.

His Highness the Amir arrived here from Landi Kotal by landau, under the escort of the 21st Cavalry to-day, at 12-20.

Under special telegraphic orders His Highness received a salute of 31 guns fired by the Frontier Garrison Battery.

THE VICEROY'S PARTY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

The Viceroy's party at Agra including the Viceregal family and His Excellency's Staff will consist of nearly a hundred persons. Among those who are expected are Lord Wenlock, Prince Lucien Murat, Coun Sala, Sir Charles and Lady Rivaz, the Chief Justice of Bengal, Members of His Excellency's Council, Admiral Sir Edmond and Lady Poe and several officers of H. M. S. "Hermes," Sir Harold, Lady and Miss Deane, Colonel and Lady Victoria Dawnay, Major and Lady Sybil Lascelles, Mr. Gilbert Elliot, Sir H. H. Risley, Sir Stuart and Lady Beatson, Sir Harold, Lady and Miss Stuart, the Dowager Lady Ashburton, the Hon'bles Alexander and Caryl Baring and the Hon'bles Mesdames Portman, Dundas and Forbes.

PUNJAB MAHOMEDANS.

Arrangements for Welcoming the Amir.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, JANUARY 3.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Anjuman-i-Islamia, Punjab, was held in the Islamia Hall at Lahore on Monday. It was unanimously resolved that an address of welcome in a silver casket be presented to the Amir when he visits the Royal Mosque. It was also resolved on behalf of the Punjab Muhommedan public that a garden party, in honour of the Amir, should be given in Lawrence Gardens if the necessary permission is accorded, and the Life President of the Anjaman-i-Islamia, Nawab Fateh Ali Khan Kazilbash was requested to make the necessary arrangements.

PLAGUE RETURNS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

Last week's plague returns were incomplete, some provinces failing to send in their figures. They have been included in the present statement so that total deaths for the whole country and also for some provinces are increased by two weeks' records. The total number of seizures reported is 11,439 and of deaths 9,101 for India as a whole; the deaths in Bombay numbered 2,555, the United Provinces 2,154, the Punjab 2,488 and the Central Provinces 951.

THE Hon'ble, Mr. Hare, Lieutenant-Governor of East Bengal, left Calcutta and arrived at Dacca on Wednesday.

THE INDIAN CONGRESS.

HOLLOW PRETENSIONS.

Plain Speaking by the "Times."

VALUE OF THE MOSLIM LEAGUE.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, JANUARY 2.

The *Times* considers that this session of the Indian National Congress is not likely to add to the reputation and influence of the Congress. The split between the Extremists and Moderates was only averted by the Moderates largely adopting the policy of the Extremists. The *Times* points out the folly of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's claim for self-government like the other colonies, since India has been won by the sword and is held in the last resort by the sword and it is well for the small highly educated classes represented at the Congress that the sword stands between them and their native enemies. The *Times* considers that the proposed Moslem League is the outcome of the Congress. It doubts whether, in spite of the pacific language of the founders, the League will make for peace, and says that anyhow, its formation exposes the hollowness of the pretensions of the Congress to speak for the people of India.

ANOTHER RAILWAY DISASTER IN AMERICA.

Many Deaths.

LONDON, JANUARY 2.

Thirty-five persons have been killed and twenty injured in a collision between two passenger trains at Alta Vista, Kansas.

GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Prince Bulow's Election Address.

FIGHTING SOCIALISM.

LONDON, JANUARY 2.

Prince von Bulow in his electoral manifesto makes a bid for the Liberal vote against the Centre and Socialist parties. He declares that the real danger of reaction lies in Socialism, and every defeat of the Socialists should be a warning against their blind arrogance, should strengthen confidence in peaceful internal development and should render more secure Germany's position abroad.

THE NAWAB OF BAHAWALPUR.

Reception at Jeddah.

LONDON, JANUARY 2.

The Nawab of Bahawalpur landed at Jeddah on the 25th ultimo, and was accorded a grand reception. He proceeded to Medina on the 26th with a complimentary escort.

OBITUARY.

LONDON, JANUARY 2.

The death is announced of Mr. Illingworth, formerly a member of Parliament.

NEW YORK MAYORAL SCANDAL.

Lost Ballot Boxes Again.

THE HEARST-McCLELLAN FIGHT.

["EMPIRE" SPECIAL.]

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

Governor Hughes of New York has astounded the Republicans by recommending a recount in the Mayoral Election of 1905 when Mr. McClellan defeated Mr. Hearst.

Mr. Hearst spent £250,000 in his endeavour to obtain the Court's order for a recount. Several ballot-boxes were never found.

POLITICS ON THE RAND.

Prohibition on Government Servants.

APPEAL TO LORD ELGIN.

["EMPIRE" SPECIAL.]

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

The Rand Labourites have appealed to Lord Elgin against the Transvaal Government prohibiting its employes from participating in politics.

The Railway men are particularly affected as one of their number is standing as a candidate for election.

THE LUCKNOW FIRE.

Police Enquiry.

MANY BUILDINGS DESTROYED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LUCKNOW, JANUARY 3.

Mr. Cole, Superintendent of Police, is conducting an enquiry into the cause of the fire. This originated in the centre room of Messrs. O'Connor's premises. No definite information as to cause has been elicited. Messrs. O'Connor's premises were insured for Rs. 38,000. Madame Pauline has lost the entire stock amounting in value of over Rs. 20,000. The premises destroyed are owned by Munshi Prag Narain and were uninsured. The fire was not put out till noon of Monday. The soldiers were hard at work.

MR. H. ARTHUR JONES commends the behaviour of New York audiences at the first performance or plays they did not like. "Strange to say," he says in the *Telegraph*, they did not boo or hiss! Some of them quietly left the theatre, the others quietly remained to the end, and gave a courteous reception to the actors. This customary first night politeness does not save bad or unpopular plays; but it gives a chance of success to those plays of merit which may for some reason or other fail to please on the first night."

GREAT FIRE AT PORTSMOUTH.

QUARTER OF A MILLION DAMAGE.

Dockyard Ablaze.

ORDNANCE STORE IN DANGER.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, JANUARY 3.

There was a serious fire at the Gun Wharf, Portsmouth, last night, which lasted four hours.

Many thousand pounds sterling worth of stores, besides the whole camp equipment of the Southern Command were destroyed. A fierce wind was blowing and the proximity of the Ordnance stores caused intense excitement. The troops were called out and Naval parties from the ships landed.

LATER.

Later advices state that the damage done by the Portsmouth fire is officially estimated at a quarter of a million sterling.

THE ABROATH DISASTER.

Board of Trade Enquiry.

WAS THE DRIVER DRUNK?

LONDON, JANUARY 3.

A Board of Trade enquiry into the Abroath accident is being held. The doctors differ regarding the allegation that the driver was intoxicated. A resident who was helping the injured gave evidence and said he gave the driver half a tumbler of brandy prior to the doctor's arrival.

AFFAIRS IN PERSIA.

Friendly Relations with Britain.

CRITICISM OF INDIAN CONSULS.

LONDON, JANUARY 3.

A Daily Mail despatch from Teheran says that the Russian Minister who has been interviewed said:—"Relations with Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Minister, were extremely friendly and his relations with the British and Russian Consuls were also friendly, but he would like to see a more friendly spirit on the part of the Consuls appointed by India."

THE STRANDED S. S. "ORMLEY."

Docked At Hull.

LONDON, JANUARY 3.

The s.s. "Ormley" which was ashore on the South Foreland has been docked at Hull.

TERRORISTS IN RUSSIA.

Another Assassination.

LONDON, JANUARY 3.

General Vonderlaunitz, the Prefect of St. Petersburg, has been assassinated.

ATTEMPTED OUTRAGE ON A GIRL.

Railway Guard's Conviction Upheld.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

An appeal was heard at the Calcutta High Court on behalf of W. A. Alexander, European Guard, E. I. Railway, who was charged with outraging the modesty of a girl in a train of which he was guard. Justices Rampini and Gupta refused to set aside the conviction.

CALCUTTA HOSPITALS.

Corporation Refuses More Contributions.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal, recently asked the Calcutta Corporation to take such steps as would ensure more liberality of contributions from the Corporation to Calcutta hospitals The Corporation decided that the present financial position prevented them from extending their present contributions.

SEPARATION OF ALIPORE FROM CALCUTTA.

Corporation's Threat.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

In connection with therecent reference by the Military authorities as to the exclusion of Alipore from Calcutta administration, the Corporation have recorded the following resolution:—That this Committee recommend the Corporation to place on record their strong protest against the exclusion of Alipore Lines from Calcutta and to intimate their unwillingness to continue to render their present service (removal of refuse and the supply of filtered water) if exclusion is effected.

STRIKE AT GUJRAT.

Market Place Deserted.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LAHORE, JANUARY 3.

There is a strike at Gujrat. It concerns the vegetable sellers, the meat sellers and the sugarcane sellers of the town. The inconvenience and trouble to which the residents have been subjected can be imagined. The Sabz Mandi, which usually looked densely crowded, busy and populated on the evenings, is a blank maidan.

THE KALKA-SIMLA RAILWAY.

Tonga Service to be Continued.

WEAKNESS OF THE HIGH BRIDGES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, JANUARY 3.

It is, the *Pioneer* understands, intended to maintain the Tonga Service on the Kalka-Simla Road although measures have been taken to put the railway in thorough repair. The experience of the past rainy season showed that there were several weak spots in the line and that some of the high bridges were far from safe. It is, of course, unlikely that such a heavy and continuous rainfall as that recorded in July and August last year will occur again for a long period, but the railway must still be regarded as an uncertain factor in the matter of communications even after all damages have been made good. The postal service by road is a satisfactory one and though the expense of its maintenance is excessive, the hope entertained that all mails could safely be transferred to the railway cannot yet be fulfilled. This is a disappointment to Government who have become the owners of the Kalka-Simla line but they will have to let matters rest for the time being. As to the passenger service by tongas it will gradually die out as the stability of the railway becomes more assured.

HYDERABAD NEWS.

The Prime Minister's Tour.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

HYDERABAD, DECCAN, DECEMBER 2.

The Prime Minister left this morning on tour in the Aurungabad Division, accompanied by Mr. A. J. Dunlop, C.I.E., and is expected to return to headquarters in a fortnight, including a visit to Jalna and Parbhani on the return journey.

Nawab Faridoon Jung, Bahadur, the Private Secretary and Press Commissioner, who is also Political Secretary, was unable to return from his Shikar-trip in time to start with the Minister, but has been directed to meet His Excellency at Aurungabad.

The troops comprising the Secunderabad Garrison went under canvas last evening and are manœuvring in Bhongir, the Second Talukdar of that District having been deputed by His Highness the Nizam's Government to attend the camp and look after the *Sarbarai* or supplies.

THE PERJURY CASE.

The Revision Petition of the accused Da Costa against the order sanctioning his prosecution on a charge of perjury arising out of the suit instituted against him by Ramaiah, the Auctioneer, was heard to-day by a Divisional Bench of H. H. the Nizam's High Court of Judicature, which consisted of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and the Hon'ble Justices Bakshi Raghunath Pershad and Nawab Hakim-ud-Daulah, Bahadur. Moulvi Ghulam Jubbar appeared on behalf of the Appellant Accused DaCosta and Mr. Humayun Mirza, Barrister-at-Law, represented the Respondent. The arguments, which occupied four hours, were interspersed with some pertinent and piquant remarks from the Bench regarding DaCosta's conduct, and after tiffin an elaborate judgment was delivered, dismissing the petition for revision and directing that DaCosta should stand his trial before the lower Court for perjury.

Much excitement prevailed amongst the Vakils and others owing to the conspicuous position DaCosta occupies as an employé of the Premier Noble, Nawab Zaffar Jung Shumsheer-ul-Mulk, Bahadur, although he was not present when judgment was delivered.

THE GANGES BRIDGE.

Major Shelley Appointed to the Committee.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

Major Shelley, R. E., Agent of the Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway has been selected as the Railway expert from non-State railways to sit on the Ganges Bridge Committee.

The first meeting of the Committee will be held at an early date as soon as the members can be assembled.

HOTEL SWINDLER CAUGHT.

Another Bogus Journalist.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, JANUARY 3.

At the Criminal Sessions at Allahabad High Court, William James, against whom several previous convictions were proved, was convicted of cheating the proprietors of the Victoria Hotel, Dehra Dun, and a native tradesman of the same place by misrepresenting himself to be a person of substance and well connected, and thus obtaining credit. Accused stayed at the Victoria Hotel from the 22nd June until the 24th of September and left surreptitiously without paying his bill. He told the hotel people that he was the Sub-Editor of an important Anglo-Indian paper, on leave, and represented himself to the tradesman as an employe of the hotel. To the Post Office officials at Dehra Dun he described himself as the Agent of the Standard Trading Company. Mr. Justice Richards sentenced accused to seven years' rigorous imprisonment on each count, with three years' police supervision, the sentences to run concurrently.

DROWNED WHILE DUCK SHOOTING.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, JANUARY 3.

The dead body of a youth, aged 22, and named Jal, the son of a well known Irani merchant in Main Street, was recovered this morning from the Pansah tank near Aundh after a vigorous search extending over twenty-four hours. The deceased went out duck shooting by himself and in attempting to reach a dead duck in the tank got entangled among the weeds and was drowned. This occurred early on Wednesday morning and it was not till his clothes, bicycle and gun were found on the water's edge that suspicion of drowning was aroused.

THE INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE.

Ladies Committee "At Home."

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 3.

The Ladies Committee of the Industrial Exhibition were "At Home" yesterday on the Exhibition grounds Lady Minto, who arrived shortly after 5 p.m., was presented with a bouquet. Amongst many others there were present Lady Victoria Downay, Lady Fraser, Lady Violet Crawley, the Maharani of Cooch Behar, Mrs. Holmwood, Mrs. Geidt, Mrs. Baker, and Mrs. Stephen, and a most enjoyable evening was spent with tableaux and theatricals.

WOMEN'S INTERESTS.

THE KING AS A POLITICIAN.

Frocks and Jewels.

(FROM OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, DECEMBER 15.

With elegant frocks, glittering jewels, dainty viands, costly flowers and boundless enthusiasm the "Suffragettes" who but a week or two ago were dining on skilly in the grim recesses of Holloway Jail were entertained to a sumptuous banquet in the gilded halls of the Savoy Hotel this week. The favourite fashionable haunt of the moment has seen many brilliant assemblages but none more memorable than the banquet of the suffragists. It was the first time political woman had ventured to adopt the traditional British method of fostering great causes by dining their leaders, and even the enterprising manager of the Savoy who on one ocasion took the order of an eccentric American millionaire to serve a little dinner in a captive balloon suspended in mid-air, on the Thames Embakment, with unmoved countenance, was filled with excitement at the prospect of entertaining a company of "gaol birds."

What would the suffragettes look like, asked a few representatives of masculinity who had secured tickets—they were at a premium by the way for weeks before the banquet—. What would they wear? asked the no less curious lady visitors.

Well, as one who was there, I can report that many of the militant ladies who recently distinguished themselves by hoisting "votes for women" flags in the sacred precincts of the House of Commons, storming the benches in the lobby, haranguing astonished legislators and then being led hatless and dishevelled to the nearest police station, are decidedly good-looking young women and on the occasion of the Banquet they were charmingly attired in pretty evening frocks.

The interpid Annie Kenney, the Lancashire factory girl who proudly boasts that she has broken up more meetings than any man or woman in England, wore a pale green silk and Irish lace, and her fair hair was crowned with a wreath of glistening green leaves.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, the belle of the movement, was radiant in cream crepe de chene and her young sisters Adela and Sylvia who also know the inside of His Majesty's prison, were in pale blue. Miss Irene Miller, resplendent in pink, wore a tiara of flowers and a necklace of pearls. Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, another ex-prisoner, was becomingly gowned in pale mauve and wore magnificent diamonds, while diamonds and rubies flashed amid the beautiful old lace which adorned "Madam the chairman" as Mrs. Fawcett was officially styled by the toastmaster.

The dinner was of course excellent—a change indeed from the menu of Holloway—and the enthusiasm that prevailed was refreshing, but alas, the after dinner oratory, if witty and bright was not a model of brevity. Big Ben thundered out the strokes of midnight as Mr. Zangwill rose to propose the toast "of the Chair." The ladies by the way followed the precedents established by mere man when dining out. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were duly honoured by the law-breakers and the toast of the night "Success to the Woman's Suffrage Cause," coupled with the names of the Suffragist prisoners was the signal for loud cheers and the singing in feminine voices "For they are jolly good fellows."

Dark hints, speedily fulfilled last night by the arrest of five ladies outside the House of Commons, were thrown out at the banquet concerning the future plans of the suffragettes, and the casual mention of the name of Mr. Asquith, their especial *bete noire*, was received with derisive laughter and cries of "villain" from excited guests.

The first Woman's Political Banquet was however a big success.

ERRING PEERS.

In many ways the arrival of the labour M. P has interrupted the even tenour of the Parliamentary way. The lynx-eyed member for Woolwich for instance has no respect for hereditary greatness and weakness. He would turn the fierce light of publicity upon every little indiscretion of our old nobility. The other night Mr. Will Crooks M. P. ventured to to ask Mr. "Luln" Harcourt as First Commissioner of Works whether it was a fact that, during the course of discussion on the Merchant Shipping Bill in another place, the attendants of the House of Lords had to remove one of the members who was obviously intoxicated and that another member who took part in the debate was suffering from indulgence in drink.

Beyond stating that the question did not seem to come within the rule of urgency, the Speaker, on being appealed to on a point of order, made no reply. As a matter of fact the names of the noble Lords who had dined too well are freely mentioned in the Lobby. Lord Lansowne, the leader of the Opposition, so I am toldby one who waspresent in the House of Lords on the occasion, completely lost his temper—a most unusual thing with him—and spoke severely to one of the erring peers. It would be unkind to give away the identity of the nobleman in whom Mr. Crooks evinced sudden interest, but one may say for the benefit of those who know their Debrett, that one of them was the eleventh earl and boasts a minor title which dates back to the fourteenth century and had for one of his ancestors a famous Governor-General of India!

AN EARLY VICTORIAN WEDDING.

It is always pleasant to chronicle a new idea in weddings, and the early Victorian wedding of Miss Howard to the Hon. Claude Biddulph was really both original and pretty. The bride wore the full round skirt of white tulle and cross-over kerchief bodice associated with early Victorian fashions, and under her lace veil was a full wreath such as Queen Victoria is depicted as wearing at her wedding.

Quainter still were the costumes of the five little girl bridesmaids who were almost exact reproductions of the little Princess Victoria as a small girl. With their full brown skirts, circular capes and little frilled net caps tied primly under the chin under big mushroon hats they looked delightfully picturesque. Many well known society people were present at the Church and every one was commenting on the quaintness of the costumes.

A NEW ROYAL TRAIN.

Many of the important railway companies possess sumptuously-appointed Royal trains for the use of the King and Queen and their guests, but the train which has just been built to the order of the London and North Western Railway Company and is waiting at Wolverton until the King next uses this line, is believed to be without an equal for luxury and comfort. The new train is composed of six carriages and the saloons are exquisitely decorated in gold and a rich cream colour. The dining car is a triumph in ingenious arrangement and is so perfectly constructed that oscillation is reduced to vanishing point. The new Royal train is fitted with sleeping carriages and cosy lounges and is altogether a model of comfort. The plans for the new train were as usual passed by his Majesty who is now considering the plans submitted by the three lines which work the North East coast route to Scotland, who also propose to build a new Royal train. The King, by the way, always pays his railway fare.

THE KING AS A POLITICIAN.

The King as everyone knows, carefully refrains from taking any part in party politics, though among the leaders of the Liberal Party from the time when Mr. Gladstone introduced his Home Rule Bill there has always existed a belief that he was distinctly Liberal is his sympathies. This session, however, it is an open secret that he has conferred with the leaders of both parties in the House of Lords and made his will known regarding certain measures. Frst of all his name was mentioned in connection with the Education Bill—with what amount of truth I cannot say, but the fact that very little has been heard from the Archbishop of Canterbury who has always been a great favourite at Court and who has been steadily opposed to the Bill both in Parliament and out, since a recent visit to Windsor, has been remarked upon. This is, of course, largely surmise, but when it comes to Labour Legislation there can be no doubt that the influence of the Court is at work. As Prince of Wales the present King took a deep personal interest in the Housing Commission and himself visited many overcrowded East End tenements. He has also followed the growth of the Trade Unions and so it is stated by those "in the know" that he has let it be known that labour legislation should not be interfered with. And that is why the House of Lords are most unwillingly offering no opposition to the Trades Disputes Bill. And that is the explanation also of the dramatic revolts of some of the younger Conservative peers who walked out of the House as a protest against the line of action adopted by Lord Lansdowne who, as I have said, is believed to be carrying out the wishes of his sovereign.

OLD FASHIONED JEWELS REVIVED.

The fashionable woman continues to wear an amount of jewellery in the day time which a few years ago would have been deemed bad taste. The tourmaline threatens to oust the amethyst from first favour. One of the loveliest of the new stones with its delicate flower-like beauty varying from the mauve pink of the orchid to a beautiful deep rose, the tourmaline yet belongs to the cheaper order of gems. The wine-coloured tourmaline is the most expensive and most sought after.

Another stone scarcely known by sight to the fashionable woman at present, but which promises to be as popular as the tourmaline, is the venturine. A green venturine set in a high raised design in oxydised silver makes a quaint and beautiful trinket The most surprising of all revivals however is that of agate which is now being set in old silver. The contents of any old jewel casket will include one or two trinkets of agate, but in modern times the agate has only been used for umbrella handles. This season, agate is being pressed into service for pendants, brooches, buckles and links.

TRIUMPH OF "PETER PAN."

That "Peter Pan" should be all the rage for the third year in succession is proof positive of the enduring popularity of Mr. Barrie's masterpiece. "Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens," exquisitely illustrated, is the favourite gift book of the Christmas season. A model of Peter Pan's little house in the tree tops is the latest toy. The Wendy-doll called after the heroine of Mr. Barrie's delightful fairy tale is a great success and all the fairy dolls for Christmas trees are called "Tink a-Bells" after the unseen but highly important fairy in the play. Peter Pan crackers, a charming novelty—will make their appearance at the juvenile parties during the holidays. The Peter Pan party itself, at which the little guests are attired as the favourite characters in the play, the boys as pirates, the girls as fairies, etc., will be one of the chief novelties in juvenile entertaining. The only drawback to the Peter Pan party is that all the little girls naturally aspire to the role of Wendy and the little boys insist on being the redoubtable "Peter Pan" himself. Seats, by the way, are booked well into the new year for the annual revival of "Peter Pan" at the Duke of York's Theatre.

THE THEATRE.

"Raffles."

SHOULD Mr. Bandmann decide to make any alteration in his programme, he will receive the unanimous thanks of his patrons if he arranges for another performance of "Raffles." Those who had previously only read Mr. Hornung's book wondered how a play had been constructed out of it. Last night showed that he has as good an instinct as a dramatist as he has in his role of novelists. The play is full of humour, for the amateur cracksman is as cheery a villain as ever creeped the watches of the night. So cheery is he and such a good sportsman that one almost feels ashamed of calling him a villain. The Amateur Cracksman has worried the police for years. What he has stolen has been returned or some good done with the spoils—that is his reputation—yet in the end he owns that he has lived upon his trade for years. Then, a Mr. Curtis Bedford, the celebrated amateur detective, tells him at their first meeting, the pitcher goes once too often to the well. That night the diamonds are stolen at Lord Amersteth's house. A French maid, accomplice of the old gaol-bird, Crawshay, lays the plot, but before the burglar has grasped the gems, he is pinned to the floor and the necklace is in Raffles' pocket. How he is tracked would take too long to tell, for as with all detective work it is a matter of many small details. To the end the excitement grows more and more keen. The net closes in, yet he keeps his wicket up till he wins the boastful bet of the American detective that he will recover the gems before midnight. Then, with the police surrounding the Albany and the handcuffs burning a hole in the Bedford's pocket he disappears with a revolver. It seems to promise a bad ending. A minute later a shot is heard, the detectives fight their way past his friend "Bunny"; suddenly Raffles springs through a door in a Grand Father clock which has been kept as a last resource. A moment more and he is free and one gives a sigh of relief, for whatever else he may be the Amateur Cracksman is a Sahib.

Mr. Claude King played Raffles and played it as well as any man could wish. Debonair, alert, brave he holds the centre of the stage from first to last. Beside him Mr. Bedford played by Mr. Pease, is small though the character seen elsewhere would be a splendid one and Mr. Pease plays it well with commendable restraint. Then too there is Mrs. Vidal with Miss Florence Hamer doing excellently as the revengeful woman and more charming is Gwendoline Conrad, daintily played by Miss Verecy.

It is matter for congratulation that there was a really large audience to cheer the players and it is to be hoped that small audiences will not be seen again during the season.

DEPARTURE OF THE TRANSPORT "PLASSY."

The Hired Transport "Plassy," Captain F. R. Summers, will sail to-day for Southampton. with details consisting of 31 officers, 32 ladies, 28 children; 926 non-commissioned officers and men, 50 women, and 64 children, 87 cot-cases, 4 insanes, and 6 prisoners. The following are the names of the officers:—

Col and Mrs A H P Turner R A
Lt Col and Miss H L Balters by and 2 children R A M C
Major J L Parker, R A
Major E D Cameron, R F A
Major E H Montercer Sussex Regt
Major C H Chepnel R G A
Capt E Stracey Norfolk Regt
Capt A E Clark, A V C
Capt H M C Orr-Lincolns
Capt J S Swan S and T Corps
Capt G W P Haslam R Irish Regt
Capt J B Southey A V C
Capt and Mrs Douglas R A M C
Capt and Mrs E R M English K S L I
Capt and Mrs R B Ainsworth, R A M C
Capt and Mrs G H Wilkinson So Lane
Lt F H Lister R A
Lt W C Lowe A V D
Lt M S S Glasse, A V S
Lt W D Conran R E
Lt W H M Acton R F A
Lt Mce A G Burn East Surry
Lt K A Plimpton East Yorks
Lt J H Pattison Essex Regt
Lt W Dent 103 Inft
Hon Lt F Bamford and 2 daughters Mis C List
Lt H G Turner 106 Pioneers
Lt T J Kenlely R M Fusiliers
Lt F B Lefray, Leinster
Lt H Selmond R I M
Condr Lt John R I M
Wife of Col A Enriques and son I Army
Wife of Lt Col W C Neville and 2 children, Cheshire
Wife of Lt Col A L Bate and 4 children, R A M C
Wife of Major L Mitchell R A M C
Wife of Major T G Geoghegan I Army
Wife of Major F L Moore I Army
Wife of Major H Codrington and Son S and T Corps
Wife of Major Dunlop I Army
Wife of Major B J Innis R A M C
Wife of Capt C B Clery and son I Army
Wife of Capt H N Kelley I Army
Wife of Major W Leslie and son and sisterrin-law R E
Wife of Major C A Sandys and daughter R I Fus
Wife of Capt W Keys and infant I M S
Wife of Capt Bryce I Army
Wife of Capt S G Lock and Son R E
Wife of Capt A Glasford I Army
Wife of Capt C T Morris Son and Sister-in-law I Army
Wife of Lt G Marchant and daughter I Army
Wife of Lt J Pike and 5 children Ord Depot
Wife of Lt Finlayson and infant I M S
Wife of Lt B Hodgson Carabineers
Wife of Capt Rainsford Hannay The Queens

CONGRESS DELEGATES ROBBED.

ON Saturday, Court Inspector B. Mitter, charged one Gadher Kaher, a servant in the employ of the Indian Congress, before Babu Chandi Dass Ghosh, Police Magistrate of Alipore, with having picked the pockets of two delegates of the Indian Congress. It appears that Messrs. G. K. Gadgill and Kasinath Ratao Maitra, Counsels of the Bombay Bar, who came with Mr. Dadabhai Naorojee, missed their purses containing some G. C. notes and railway tickets. Information was sent to the local thana and the Police arrested the accused with the stolen property in the house of a woman of the town at Soonagachi, Calcutta. The accused denied the charges. The case was adjourned for proving the previous convictions of the accused, who can at least claim to be supporters of Swadeshi.

CURRENT TOPICS.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

[BY A FREE LANCE.]

ARE ANGLO-INDIANS RELIGIOUS.

I feel compelled to ask this question because I have heard it largely discussed of late. Of course the answer to it will depend on what is meant by religious. If it means regular or even occasional attendance at church, then I very much fear that the answer must be—no! There are certain times when a considerable number of Anglo-Indians do visit church,—Easter and Christmas, for example. But these are the exceptions which prove the rule that the ordinary Anglo-Indian is not a churchgoer. Compared with Hindus, for example, the Anglo-Indian has no pretence to call himself religious. Religion to the Hindu is his life; to the Anglo-Indian religion is a thing to be attended to at times. Moreover it is very feminine. Men who have never gone to church suddenly find themselves quite frequent attenders after they are married. I should very much like to see statistics showing how often the ordinary youth, between 20 to 30, attended public worship in the East. I do not think any of the churches would like to publish them. They would not show that the hold of the church upon the Anglo-Indian was growing stronger. Would they show that it had any hold at all, worth speaking of?

I have broached this subject, because I think it is one of the things in which Englishmen in this country are not straightforward. We pretend to be a Christian people and we say to others,—in these churches of ours, Christianity is taught—and then to show how much we care for this so-called religion of ours, ninety per cent. of us leave the churches severely alone. If we do not go to our own churches, how can we expect others to go to them. I feel certain I shall bring down a storm of criticism on myself; but I don't care. It seems to me so essential, if we Englishmen are to retain the respect of the natives of this country, that there should be nothing that is not altogether straightforward and above-board about us. And somehow its seems to me that on this question of religion, we are not straightforward and above board. It is the fashion of our youth to describe parsons as 'devil dodgers' and 'sky pilots.' Yet these are the persons in whose hearts are said to be the repositories of the sacred mysteries. What can a Hindu, for example, think of such a state of affairs? How he must despise a religion, the adherents of which can treat it so!

THE TRUE RELIGION.

The truth is that true religion is moving beyond churches and creeds that can be numbered into so many articles, whether these churches and needs be of the East or West. People are beginning to discover that religion is not altogether contained in their own particular backyard. They are learning that the essentials are not to be found in creeds, vestments, or dogmas, but in the great heart of humanity. They are realising at last that there is only one religion in all the world, the religion of love and peace, and that all the various sects have been caricaturing it these many years. They are asking for a message and they get no answer from the pulpit or the fire temple. Educated Parsees, for example, are not satisfied with the crusty and ancient dogmas of their religion, and they are letting them go. So too, Anglo-Indians are realising that the religion taught in their churches is so narrow that it finds no room for many of the best and most human things in life. The wonderful strides made by science are teaching humanity every day its own littleness and insignificance. Man is becoming far less ready to dogmatise on any subject and to be more filled with the wonder and incomprehensibility of the great world. He is bowing down at last before the Great Unknown.

This is a movement from the West but it is spreading Eastwards every day. Man is beginning to find religion, alike in East and West, more in the magnificence and beauty of nature and in the unfathomable depths of human hearts.

MUNDANE THINGS.

But my weekly notes are not to be sermons. It is a singular thing that as soon as a man becomes religious, he at once feels it his duty to tell others about it. But for me it is otherwise. I do not wish to preach; I only wish to talk or write what I feel. The world is groaning under stupid conventions and dogmas,—groaning, as I think, altogether unnecessarily. Next to religion, comes clothes. Some one said,—I confess at the moment I do not know who—was it Wesley?—that cleanliness was next to godliness. Now-a-days, I very much fear, that clothes have usurped the place of both. The truth is that our modern clothing is so altogether ridiculous that it is very easy to be funny about it Why, for example, do we Europeans wear stiff shirts and high collars in our evening dress? They are not comfortable, they are not picturesque, they are not economical. I will say nothing of the sartorial absurdities and grotesque head gear one sees at a Levee. But one feels bound to ask why men are such slaves to fashion that at one time they wear lounge jackets quite short, and in a couple of years the same jackets reach almost down to the knees? Then what is the object of the huge slit at the back of the jacket? Why do jackets at one time button near the neck, at another quite low down? All these things are very trivial and absurd and yet such is the power of the tailor that if we don't pay attention to them, we shall be dubbed fearful outsiders by the great majority. It is not only we poor men, who are slaves. Women are also. Why for instance, has the fair sex suddenly discovered the impossibility of wearing a sun topee without huge streamers waving out behind? How did they get on without these veils all these years? The only fashion that commends itself at all to me of late years, has been the introduction of the soft collar instead of the linen one,—an undoubted boon to perspiring and delicate skinned humanity.

BOMBAY.

Is Bombay the second city in the Empire? People are so continually asserting that it is, that it is really surprising to find how little justification there is for the assertion. If you count heads, there may be something in the idea, though even then, like the Chancellor, I doubt. But from any point of view really worth considering, Bombay is not only not the second city in the Empire; it is not even in the first dozen. Take literature, music, art, and the drama, for example, and where do we stand? There is no real literary society in Bombay at all. I am not acquainted with the statistics of Messrs. Thacker & Co., Combridge & Co., but I fancy their sale in Bombay of books that may properly be classed under the heading Literature, is extremely small. Novels by the dozen, and a plentiful supply of the Home papers and magazines,—these form the mental food of the ordinary Bombayite. Literary conversation at a dinner party is as rare as the fabulous roc's egg. I keep a few of the poets on my shelves and delight to read them, and I suppose there are a few others likewise. From the literary point of view Bombay ranks nowhere.

MUSIC,

As to music. Well, is there any in Bombay? Mr. Faulkner plays the inferior Cathedral organ excellently on Sundays and at other times. The Town Hall organ, except as a rather doubtful ornament, might as well not be there. We have had, as far as I can remember, one professional concert in the last six months,—the very excellent one given by the Marquardts a fortnight ago. At that concert, which was

there is no room for Art. Perhaps there aren't any artists. Any how there is precious little Art.

THE DRAMA. Next to speak of the drama, the Bandmann Opera Company has paid us several visits and has undoubtedly met with great success. Bombay yawned, stretched its arms, went to look at them, and quite enjoyed itself. It is to be hoped that the somewhat immature performances of their last visit have not damaged their chances. But these defects were, under the circumstances, almost inevitable and I expect them all to be gone when the Company comes back in the middle of February. Whether the Opera Company's performances come under Drama, is a question for experts. But there is no doubt that the performances now being given by the Bandmann Comedy Company at the Gaiety Theatre are certainly entitled to the name. This is a very good all round company indeed and judging by their delightful performance of "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace" on Tuesday night, they are entirely worthy of the support of all those who like to see good plays well played. Their performance on Tuesday was all the more remarkable as their train was several hours late and they only reached Bombay from Calcutta late in the afternoon, after a long and tiring journey. I wish to advise all my readers to go and see them for two reasons. The first is that they are so very well worth seeing. The second reason is even more important. If this first class company does not receive the support it undoubtedly merits, then we may say a long goodbye to the drama in Bombay. Surely that would be the greatest of pities. To my mind, Mr. Bandmann's enterprise in bringing so good a comedy company to India is deserving of every support, and if Bombay gives it the cold shoulder, Bombay may expect to be severely left alone in the future by theatrical managers. If this Company receives proper support, we may expect other equally good companies, and the awful dullness of this so-called second city of the Empire may be somewhat relieved.

AMATEUR TALENT. Amateur talent seems to be entirely defunct. It has been growing feebler and feebler during the last 8 years, existing only on spasmodic efforts, and even these seem to have come to an end. The ordinary life of the Anglo-Indian in Bombay is as follows:—Wake at 7 a.m., chota hazri, then, if you are energetic, a ride or a walk; if not energetic, a long chair and the morning paper: 9 a.m., tub, 9-30 a.m., breakfast, 10 a.m., office, 2 p.m., tiffin at Bombay Club, Yacht Club, or office; 6 p.m. join your wife in the gharry and drive to the club; 6-15 p.m. to 7-45 p.m. sit on the lawn and consume a couple of small whisky sodas and talk to the same people you have been talking to for years; 8-30 p.m. dinner; 9-30 p.m. feeling sleepy: 10 p.m. bed. Can you wonder that we are about the dullest society in the world? Personally I believe that if people did not go quite so much to their clubs, there would be far more energy and enterprise. Clubs are first-class places for destroying the intellectual and physical powers and inducing a hopeless state of lethargy. For this reason I welcome such an institution as the Rink, where people go to take exercise and do not, as a rule, sit down—except on the floor.

THE WEATHER.

(BY TELEGRAPH.)

SIMLA, JANUARY 3.

No rain has fallen in the past day in any part of India or Burma. A rapid fall of pressure occurred from Baghdad to the Punjab, being most marked in Sind and the skies in the North-west of India have become much clouded. The only signs, however, of a definite disturbance appear in the west of Persia. In Burma moderate cloud is reported in the northern district. The humidity is unchanged. The temperature is normal in Tenasserim and elsewhere remains in excess. In North-east India and Orissa, there is no cloud and the humidity unchanged, while the temperature continues normal. In the United Provinces, Central India and the Central Provinces the skies remain clear. The air is damper in the East United Provinces and the temperature is high in the United Provinces; and other parts of division are normal or in defect. In North-West India the cloud was thickened; in Kashmir the skies are cloudy everywhere in the plains except the east of the Punjab. The humidity has increased in Sind and Gujarat and the temperature generally above normal, while the excess is large in the Punjab hills; and the Frontier Province, the Peninsula, the skies are thickly clouded. In Madras the humidity has fallen and in the Deccan the temperature is approximately normal. Despite the changed condition and the cloud in the north-west of India, there is not much probability of any rainfall to-day. Some rain is possible, however, in South Rajputana.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A. M., ON THURSDAY 3RD JANUARY.

Pressure changes show a brisk to rapid fall in Sind, the Punjab, Rajputana, Central India, over the greater part of Gujarat and at Surat and Negapatam and a slight fall elsewhere.

Winds are cyclonic at Madras and Negapatam while calms and variable breezes prevail elsewhere. The force has been fresh to strong at Negapatam and generally light elsewhere.

Temperature.—The variations of the maximum show an excess of 5° to 11° in Sind, Rajputana, Kathiawar, the United Provinces and at Deesa and Sirsa, while those of the minimum an excess of 5° to 8° at Musulipatam, Bellary, Veraval, Jhansi and Sirsa, and a defect of 5° to 8° at Nagpur, Khandwa and Hoshangabad. The highest temperature in the shade was 93° at Veraval and the lowest 40° at Lahore.

Cloud and Humidity.—The sky is cloudy in Sind and Gujarat and also at Bijapur, Bangalore and Colombo.

Rain.—Nil.

Weather is unsettled off Negapatam in the Bay. In Sind and Gujarat it is cloudy and in a slightly unsettled condition.

N. LESLIE,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

TELEGRAPHIC WEATHER AND CROP REPORTS, DATED 3RD JANUARY.

Amritsar.—Bright, no sign of rain. Cotton picking continue. All crops doing well.

Bhatinda.—Cloudy, but no rain. All crops doing well. Crop prospects generally good. Rain much needed generally for rabi crops.

Mooltan.—Bright, no sign of rain. Cotton healthy. Wheat larger area sown this year. Rapeseed doing well. Expect improvement in crops owing to seasonable weather.

Delhi.—Bright, no sign of rain. Wheat and rapeseed require rain.

Agra.—Cloudy, but no rain. Rabi crop prospects generally good.

Cawnpore.—Bright, no sign of rain. More rain wanted generally.

Beawar.—Mornings cold and dewy. Cotton arriving in small quantities.

Amraoti.—Cloudy, but no rain. Rabi crop prospects generally good.

Khamgaon.—Bright, no sign of rain. Cotton picking general. Rabi crop prospects generally good.

Dhulia.—Bright, no sign of rain.

Broach.—Seasonable. Cloudy intervals. Cotton plants in flower and show bolls rapidly ripening and commenced bursting. Cotton ready for picking in some places.

Viramgam.—Seasonable. Cotton plants showing bolls. Crop prospects generally good.

Wadhwan.—Unusually cool. Mornings cold and dewy. Cotton plants flourishing. Cotton healthy and crop excellent. Cotton in low grounds doing well, but poor on high land. Present weather may improve cotton yields slightly.

Dholera.—Mornings cold and dewy. Cotton plants showing bolls and crop excellent.

Bhavnagar.—Bright, no sign of rain. Seasonable. Cotton plants flourishing.

Barsi.—Continues cloudy with slight drizzle. Cotton crop excellent. Food grains doing well. Rabi Crop prospects generally good.

Sholapur.—Cloudy and unseasonable. Harvests partially damaged.

Hubli.—Looks like clearing up. Seasonable. Cotton healthy.

Bellary.—Continues cloudy with slight drizzle. Cotton plants flourishing.

THE MOST BRACING OF BATHS.

A delicious sensation of Coolness and purity instantly follows a bath containing a little Condy's Fluid, which invigorates the body and braces the nerves in a manner that is unattainable by any other means. The Cooling and Bracing effects are Simply Magical—They last for several hours. Condy's Fluid is sold by all Chemists. All substitutes are greatly inferior. Insist on having "Condy's Fluid."

NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

EDUCATION BILL.

Discussion Reopened in the Lords.

THE GOVERNMENT'S CONCESSIONS.

London, December 18.—The discussion on the Education Bill was re-opened yesterday in the House of Lords, the occasion being the return of the Bill, with its rejected amendments, from the House of Commons. The Earl of Crewe, President of the Council, stated that the House of Commons had disagreed with the Lords amendments in toto, because they completely altered the character of the Bill and contradicted its principles. The Marquis of Lansdowne protested that the message delivered by the Earl of Crewe from the House of Commons was unprecedented, curt, and almost contemptuous. The proper course, in the circumstances, would be, he said, for the House of Lords to insist on the re-insertion of its amendments. He proposed to move, however, that the House of Lords protest against the House of Commons innovation in constitutional procedure in rejecting the amendments made by the Peers without assigning specific reasons. In the meantime he would move the adjournment of the House to enable the Government to make a definite statement. Lord Crewe then indicated that the Government were willing to drop Clause VI., which makes attendance during hours of religious instruction expressly non-compulsory, and to permit assistant teachers in schools affected by Clause III. to volunteer to give denominational teaching in urban and in really large schools in rural areas. The Earl of Crewe undertook, in conjunction with the Duke of Devonshire, to endeavour to find a half-way house regarding the compulsory taking over of existing voluntary schools. The Government, he said, would refuse to admit 'single schools' in rural areas to the privileges of Clause IV., but the urban limitation would be removed. The Government were willing to give parents' committees a consultative voice in regard to the appointment of teachers, and under Clause IV. the right of appeal to the Board of Education would be conceded. Lord Crewe stated that the Government could not pledge the House of Commons to accept the Government's concessions.

PRESS COMMENTS.

London, December 18.—The *Times* referring to the latest developments in connection with the Education Bill, remarks.—"Although the old character of the village schools is largely doomed, yet the Government concessions afford a fair promise of a settlement."

The *Daily News* says:—"Half the educational programme of the Liberals has been sacrificed, and urban schools will be left pretty much as at present."

The *Daily Chronicle* states:—"The battle is over, though the Government concessions are undoubtedly unpopular with the extreme section of the Government supporters."

FRANCE AND THE VATICAN.

Paris Churches Registered.

DISTURBANCES IN THE PROVINCES.

London, December 17.—Notwithstanding Papal and episcopal prohibitions to the contrary, representative laymen have registered the Paris churches by making the ordinary declaration that these edifices will be used for purposes of public worship. Other churches, which are not registered, are, by an act of tolerance on the part of the Government, allowed for the present to remain open. Those priests who have not conformed to the law, will however, no longer be subsidised by the State but, pensions to aged priests are not to be effected by their non-compliance with the Statute. The Government maintains that the new Bill which has been introduced by M Braind, the Minister for Public Worship accords the demand put forward by the Assembly of French Bishops which met in September last, that public worship should be organised on the basis of the Associations Law of 1901. The Paris "Figaro" gathers from well-informed clerical circles that the Pope is expected to accept the new law. There were some disturbances in the Provincial towns of France yesterday, but none of a serious character.

London, December 16.—A series of violent demonstrations were held in Rome yesterday in sympathy with the French anti-clerical law. Many troops were employed to restore order.

THE TRANSVAAL CONSTITUTION.

Dutch Disappointment Expressed.

"SAFEGUARDING BRITISH INTERESTS."

London, December 15.—The *Onsland*, a leading Dutch organ, considers that the voters' residence qualification—six months—is too short, in view of the Colony's floating population.

Disappointment is expressed by the *Onsland* at the large nominated Legislative Council provided for in the new Constitution, as it had hoped that the Imperial Government would have amended this part of the legislative machine, and thus removed all appearance of distrust. With a nominated Legislative Council, states the *Onsland*, the Constitution fails to bestow full responsible government.

The *Onsland* declares that "the farmers of the Constitution have taken remarkable pains to safeguard British interests—firstly by a nominated legislative Council; secondly, by making provision for a conference of both Houses to settle disagreements when the members of the Upper House can convert a majority of the popular Chamber into a minority; and thirdly, by the Imperial veto."

It adds that the stipulations regarding Chinese labour are satisfactory.

THE FUTURE OF CUBA.

Mr. Secretary Taft's Report.

London, December 18.—Mr. W. H. Taft, United States Secretary of State for War, has addressed a report to Congress respecting the establishment of a provisional Government in Cuba. The report contains the significant threat that if the insurrectionary habit recurs the American Government will impose a permanent peace on the Cubans, at whatever cost of life and property.

THE WORCESTER ELECTION.

Constituency Punished.

London, December 18.—The Worcester election was the subject of a debate in the House of Commons yesterday Sir A F Ackland Hood, Conservative member for Wellington, moved that a new writ be issued for the election of a member in the place of Mr. Williamson, who was unseated on petition for bribery. He contended that it was not fair to punish the mass of the electors by disfranchising the constituency for the faults of the few whose conduct had been condemned by the Worcester Election Commission. Sir John Walton, the Attorney-General, moved that no writ should issue during the currency of the present session of Parliament. The amendment was carried by 263 to 66.

HENLEY REGATTA.

London, December 16.—The stewards of the forthcoming regatta at Henley have decided not to accept entries from scullers or boats' crews outside the United Kingdom unless they belong to clubs which are affiliated with some union or federation which has an arrangement with the Henley committee.

NEW BOOKS.

SIR NIGEL, BY A. CONAN DOYLE (GEORGE BELL & SONS). Readers of the Strand Magazine will welcome these stories as old friends; other readers will be glad to have them new at holiday time. For Sir Conan Doyle is always worth reading. He knows how to tell a good story—few better—and these stories of his about Sir Nigel, the Knight, and Aylward the bowman, are fine stories. Possibly Sir Nigel is too much of a fire eater to suit the fancy of everyone. Most readers, and we are of the number, prefer the type of Ivan hoe or Sir Kenneth; but the times of the fourteenth century were stirring times, and as Sir Conan Doyle has read deep and wide to get material for his hero's adventures, the picture he draws of him is possibly a typical one. Of Samkin Aylward, the bowman, few readers, we imagine, will have ought to say but praise. Sir Conan Doyle is a worthy historian of the men who contributed so largely to the making of early English history; one never tires of hearing details of the fighting men who won the battles of Agincourt Crecy and Poictiers. Sir Conan Doyle is at pains to inform his readers of the amount of research he has made among old volumes to get his information of the period. He is not altogether a stranger to it, for his *White Company* treats of similar things. But apart from his picture of the "old road" Sir Nigel traversed, "which ran across the south of England from Manchester to Canterbury and never turned towards London, for the good reason that the place was a poor hamlet when first the road was laid"—and his picture of the Abbey House, and of the battle of Poictiers, we think he has not been very successful in reproducing the spirit of the times. Sir Nigel's love affair is very modern, and savours strongly of the idea which Mr. Mason elaborated in his *Four Feathers*. His tournament, too, we are disappointed with. Compared with the jouste at Ashby which Sir Walter Scott described, it certainly limps very far behind. However we do not wish to be captious. Sir Conon Doyle's main idea was, doubtless, to write a series of thrilling adventures to suit the taste of present-day Magazine readers. In the accomplishment of this idea he has been eminently successful.

ANDREW GOODFELLOW, A TALE OF 1805; BY MRS. H. A. WATSON (MACMILLAN AND CO.). The background of Mrs. Watson's picture is disappointing. The year of Trafalgar was, perhaps, the most remarkable of all years in the history of England. When England swarmed with volunteers expecting invasion, knowing that Napoleon was in camp at Bouglogne with 100,000 men, and only wanted the mastery of the channel for 6 hours to enable him to be, as he said, the master of the world, the old town of Plymouth must have been seething with excitement. Mrs. Watson shows us nothing of this. Yet her hero, Andrew Goodfellow, was one of Nelson's picked Captains; he commanded the *Sappho* at the battle of Trafalgar, so we naturally look for some traces of the unsuppressed excitement of the time in a novel which tells the story of his love affair. However Mrs. Watson has only dealt with that side of Andrew Goodfellow's life which novelists and poets have generally persisted in regarding as the most important concern of a man's life, namely, his falling in love. The story is attractive, for it is simply and pleasantly written, and rises to a high level in describing the ill-fortune of Dorothy Lovel, the heroine, who makes a *mesalliance* before she obtains a divorce, and then becomes engaged to Andrew Goodfellow. We believe this is Mrs. Watson's first attempt at fiction. We do not doubt that this book will be successful enough to induce her to write more.

THE SINEWS OF WAR; BY EDEN PHILPOTTS AND ARNOLD BENNETT (T. WERNER LAURIE).—Surprise was once expressed that Saul was among the prophets: we had somewhat the same sort of feeling in finding Mr. Eden Philpott in the ranks of writers of detective stories. We think he might well leave work of this kind to Mr. Fergus Hume and his kindred, and devote his talents to some worthier branch of literature. The story is a good one, but as the best butter is wasted on the works of a watch, so are Mr. Eden Philpott's talents—in our opinion—wasted on works of this kind.

WOMEN AND THE WEST BY CHARLES MARRIOTT (GEORGE BELL & SONS).—We remember having read some of Mr. Marriott's short stories in the Fortnightly Review, and other periodicals. We are glad to have the opportunity of re-reading them and of making the acquaintance of others. The short story is one of the most difficult branches of fiction. The perspective is so fine that the smallest fault is magnified. The short story, as Ouida very rightly says in a preface to this collection, requires vigour and self-restraint, a preciseness in the writer. Mr Marriott has all these qualities, and besides these, he has the true sense of proportion, the fine touch of the artist,—the wit to know what to leave unsaid, the sympathy which awakes and reveals those secrets of character so often "hidden from the wise and prudent." All these stories are excellent work.

THE BATTLE OF TSU-SHIMA; BY CAPTAIN VLADIMIR SEMENOFF (JOHN MURRAY).—Probably no man ever led a hope more forlorn than Rozdestvensky, the Admiral of the Russian fleet, when he steamed out of Shanghai on the morning of May the 25th, 1905. His long and weary voyage (the fleet left Cronstadt on September 11th 1904) had been "one mournful indictment" of boilers and machinery and ships; men laboured to make bricks without straw, "to effect repairs without the material necessary for making them." The order of battle was practised "for the last time," on the day preceding the battle; it was but "moderately performed" says the historian, who adds, "We could only regret our unpreparedness and in the "coming fight there was nothing for us to do but to make the "most of what we had!" In the straits of Tsu-Shima, the first shot was fired at 11-20 a.m. on the 27th May. The *Suvoroff*, the flagship, with a crew of 900 men, led the Russian fleet into battle. At 5-30 p.m., the ship was an unrecognisable mass of debris, enveloped in smoke and flame, with a surviving crew, mostly wounded, of about 90 men. Captain Vladimir Semenoff was one of these survivors. As he was a non-combatant on the ship, he availed himself of the opportunity to take notes of the battle during its progress and his notes enable one to realise in some measure the appalling horrors of a modern naval battle and the grievous condition to which a battleship can be reduced by rapid and accurate fire. They also provide for naval experts, valuable data wherewith to gauge the relative importance of the different systems of arming, manœuvering, and fighting a battleship and a fleet. In an interesting preface to the book, Sir George Clarke claims that "the principle which guided the British Navy in the days of Nelson—to close to effective range and then deliver the most rapid fire possible—have been strikingly reaffirmed," and also the principle held by English naval experts, that rapid volume of fire is far more important and effective than the shock of the slower fire of heavier batteries. The book is translated from the original by Captain A. B. Lindsay of the Gurkha Rifles, who took up the original volume with a view to extracting information regarding, fire effect, gun power, etc., but found the narrative so realistic that he placed this translation before the public. For this the public should be grateful.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m. yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague Attacks.	Plague Deaths.	Deaths from all causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	1		3
B Mandvi, Chukla, Comerkhadi and Dongri	1		16
C Market, Dhobi Talao Pansawady, Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao, and Kumbharwada ..	2		25
D Kheturwadi, Girgaum, Chowpati, Walkeshwar, and Mahalaxmi	0	0	8
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamathipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	0	0	26
F Parel, Sewree and Sion.....	0	0	7
G Mahim and Worli	0	0	9
Water Division.....	0	0	1
Non-Resident and Unknown ..	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	0	6
Total.....	4	1	98
Total plague deaths to date ..	124,162		
Same date last year.....	nil	1	109

THE NATIVE PRESS.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD MINTO.

THE *Gujerati* writes of Lord Minto:—We think all sensible people have by this time discovered that if Lord Minto cannot dazzle the public by brilliant oratorial efforts of the Curzonic order, there lurks behind his public pronouncements, brief as they are, sound common sense, practical wisdom, the quality of self-control and sympathy. There is a quietness about his methods and utterances which, though apt to be misunderstood, is indicative of the possession of considerable reserve power. It is useless to speculate what he would have been under the influences of a Conservative government in England. But it cannot be said from our experience so far that he has run counter to the wishes and principles of the party now in power. In one of his very first utterances in India he expressed his hearty sympathy with the Swadeshi movement and the declaration of his attitude not only produced a soothing and encouraging effect upon the public mind but also gave the requisite turn, wherever it was wanted, to the attitude of the subordinate officials throughout the country, and whenever an indiscreet official was zealous enough to needlessly tamper with the Swadeshi movement, his Excellency's declaration has always been appealed to with effect.

THE CURRENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The *Kaiser-i-Hind* observes:—Sir Edward Sassoon seems to be a persistant querist in the House of Commons in connexion with the precious artificial Currency of the Government of India. The other day he interpellated the Secretary of State on the subject of the heavy coinage of Rupees which has been going on at the two mints in the country. He asked whether the Government is coining a Rupee with the prerogative of legal tender, and is making a profit of 3d. each; (2) whether by similar means in Great Britain the Government has ever closed the English mint to free coinage of sovereigns, and has extracted a seigneurage of 4 shillings per each sovereign coined; (3) whether in the history of currency in any country the money metal which constitutes the unlimited legal tender currency of the country has ever been subjected to an important tariff; (4) whether silver, the metal of the legal tender currency of British India is to-day subject to an *ad valorem* in the ports of India; and (5) whether a protective revenue tariff on gold and silver bullion is the established policy of the present Government of India. It will be seen that the questions were of a crucial character, and the one hung on the other. Sir Edward started with the fundamental question whether the Rupee was unlimited legal tender and the Secretary of State replied in the affirmative. It should, however, be remembered that the answer was not complete. The Rupee is to be the legal tender till such time that the Government was able to get its precious gold currency into circulation. The india office astutely suppressed this part. It could not help doing so. For it has now been completely frustrated in its efforts to force the gold currency on the people of this country. More, it has been now obliged to confess its own huge error of closing the mints to private coinage. It has seen that with the growth of the population, commerce and manufactures Rupees must be coined and coined to a larger extent than ever recorded in the mint annals before the closure of the mints.

THE PARSEES AND THE SHAH OF PERSIA.

The *Rast Goftar* remarks on the relations between the Shah of Persia and the Parsees of Bombay:—The laudable zeal with which the small colony of Persi settlers in England is safeguarding the interest of their co-religionists in remote portions of the world, furnishes an exemplary lesson to the Parsi community of Bombay. The condition of the Zoroastrians of Persia is not so stable and secure, that the more prosperous and influential section of their community in India can afford to leave them to guard their communal interests unaided with their moral and material support. Persia is now on the dawn of a great political movement, and the present is precisely the time when every effort should be employed to secure for the Zoroastrian community of that country as much share in the administration of the Government as is their due in keeping with the numerical strength of the community. The Shah of Persia, who has ersthow shown a laudable interest in the welfare of his Zoroastrian subjects, has given an example of his love for justice and fair play by voluntarily assigning them a seat in the Persian Duma. The distinction which is conferred upon Arab Jamshed may not be a coveted honour here in India, but it has an immense political value for the Zoroastrian population of Persia. And what have their coreligionists in India, and particularly in Bombay, done to mark their sense of appreciation to the ruling monarch who has shewn such parental regard for their coreligionists in Persia? Nothing! Not a word of praise, not a message of thanks, not a line of congratulation has been conveyed to His Royal Highness to show that the Parsi community of India, who enjoys such a proud and prominent position as the premier race in India, appreciates this token of good-will and regard towards their coreligionists in Persia. The significance of such a message would not be lost upon the Shah, and it will be an incentive to him and his ministers to take greater interest in future for the communal welfare of the small but faithful band of their Zoroastrian subjects.

THE "SERVANTS OF INDIA" SOCIETY.

The *Parsi* speaks of a newly-established Society in the following terms:—Through the instrumentality chiefly of the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale, a society called "the Servants of India Society" was established in June last at Poona. The object of the society is said to be to train men, prepared to devote their lives to the cause of the country in a religious spirit, for the work of political education and agitation, and to promote by all constitutional means, the national interests of the Indian people. The members frankly accept the British connections "as ordained, in the inscrutable dispensation of Providence, for Indian's good" and their goal is self-government on the lines of English Colonies. They recognise that this goal cannot be attained without years of earnest and patient work and sacrifices worthy of the cause. The Society will consist of (*a*) a first member, (*b*) ordinary members, and (*c*) members under training. Every members, on admission, must undergo special training for five years and at the time of admission must take seven vows. There are strict rules regulating the admission and removal of members, the provision to be made for them and their families, the management of the affairs of the Society and its business, &c., &c. A cursory perusal of the prospectus of the Society may lead one to suppose that it is rather utopian in its character but a more attentive examination of its contents will convince all that the Society is one which is bound to wield a great influence over the political agitations in India in the future.

THE INDIA COUNCIL.

The Parsi writes regarding the appointment of Mr. Theodore Morison to the India Council:—The Prince of Wales made an appeal for sympathy in the dealings of his countrymen with their Indian fellow-subjects, and the Home Government have, whatever their difficulties, endeavoured to obey his commands loyally. It is true, Mr. John Morley has not healed the wounds of Bengal, but he has been as sympathetic as he could manage consistently with a "continuity of policy." But the appointment of Mr. Theodore Morison, late Principal of the Aligarh College, to the India Council, is a thing almost without precedent, in view of the liberal and enthusiastic character of the new councillor. The Indian Council, consisting as it necessarily does, chiefly of men who have already retired from the arena, has not the reputation of being a very enterprising body. If it avoids rash experiments it is generally by the tame expedient of not taking any risks. A contemporary promises that Mr. Morison will make things hum on the India Council. We doubt whether any one man, except perhaps Lord Curzon, has sufficient horse-power for this stupendous feat, but the new Councillor will at least bring a mind keen and unspoilt to his task, and his influence on the Council cannot but be a good one.

The *Indian Spectator* remarks:—The significance of Mr. Theodore Morison's appointment to the Secretary of State's Council is many-sided. He has his own plans of training the Natives of India to self-government and the discharge of responsible duties. But he is not in favour of the proposal of the Congress to create a strong Opposition. He would train us to rule, and not to oppose rulers. In his attitude towards the Congress, his sympathies are with the generality of the Muhammadans. The Aligarh school of political thinkers may congratulate themselves that by Mr. Morison's appointment the Secretary of State has practically honoured them. Viewed in this light the appointment does not enable the Congress to flatter itself that the Liberal Secretary of State has been captured by its friends in England and that he has succumbed to the deputation recently despatched to press its views upon him. On the other hand synchronising as this appointment does, with several important appointments of Muhammadans in India—especially in the Calcutta High Court and the Punjab Chief Court—it may even be regarded as a demonstration of the sympathy of Government.

The *Rast Goftar* discourses:—In his selection of Mr. Theodore Morison for a seat on the India Council, Mr. John Morley has gone in for a bold departure from the practice usually followed in the matter of filling up vacancies in the Council. The selection he has made to fill up the void, caused by the retirement of Mr. Finlay, is made, contrary to the usual practice, from outside the official guild. The nature of the work that falls to the lot of members of the Council, renders it all but imperative that the new appointments be made from old stagers, who by dint of previous experience and intimacy with administrative affairs in India, are qualified to act as efficient advisers to the Secretary of State, whom the exigencies of a political party instal in the chair, not infrequently irrespective of the question of merit or special qualifications. The course usually followed in the organization of the *personnel* of the Council is, however, not without its relative drawbacks. The members, when recruited from the narrowed precincts of officialdom, do not always bring an open mind and broad views in the discharge of their duties. The infusion of an outside element in the Council is, therefore, apt to add new vigour and spirit in that officialised institution, and Mr. Morley is so far to be congratulated for having ventured upon a digression from the accepted rule. Mr. Morison is no stranger to us in India. The public first made his acquaintance when he stirred the Legislative Council, during Lord Curzon's viceroyalty by his vigorous campaign against the University Bill and the Official Secrets Bill. Though he acted for some time as the principal of the Aligarh College, his connections with that institution were not of a nature to qualify him for the responsible post which is now assigned to him. However, as a man of broad intellect and cultured attainments, we may look upon him to prove a valuable acquisition to the Council.

THE MODIS OF SURAT.

Their Connection with the Early English.

THE death last Sunday at Surat of the venerable head of the Parsis there, Sirdar Dawer Edulji Khur shedji Modi, reminds us of his well-known family and specially of its long hereditary connection with the English in Western India. The family is very ancient and as John Romer, the Governor of Bombay of the day said in Durbar, held in January 1831, in honour of the brother of the Modi just dead, "it considers itself the most noble of all those that left Persia for this country springing from the Royal Stock," that is, it claims to trace its descent in a direct line for nearly thirteen centuries from the last unfortunate king of the Parsis, Yazdigird III. of the Royal house of Sasan to which belonged the great Chosroes, the magnificent monarch who once defeated Justinian, the proud Emperor of Rome. However this may be—and doubt may naturally be thrown on this unprecedentedly long pedigree—it is certain that the Modi family was flourishing in the seventeenth century when the English began their connection with India in a small way. It is certainly the oldest amongst the existing well-known families of Parsis. Sir Jamsetji, the first Baronet, founded his family hardly eighty years ago. The Dadys and Lowji Wadias became known in the latter part of what was till a few years ago the last century. The Modis, it may be said, have seen the rise of all the existing families out of insignificant beginnings and the fall of many others also. There is much to touch the historic imagination in the long time of succession of the several Modis in their headship of the Parsis in their historic settlement of Surat from which mainly they peopled Bombay, towards the close of the seventeenth century.

When the English arrived in India and first established a factory for trading purposes at Surat, about the beginning of the seventeenth century, they were greatly helped by this Parsi family which was called by them the "Modis" because its head was then supplier of provisions to the Surat factory, "modi" in the vernacular meaning this. This was no easy thing in those early and troublous days, for the English were much harassed by their European rivals, the Portuguese and the Dutch, and had likewise to cope with difficulties thrown in their way by the Mahomedan Nawab of Surat who then ruled there. On one occasion they were so sorely pressed by their enemies at Surat that supplies of provisions and water could only be most secretly smuggled by the Parsi Modi. When better times came to the English, they never forgot the faithful services of their Modi. In 1758 two of the then Modi's nephews were murdered by the Nawab's people, and Jonathan Duncan says in a Minute in 1798, as Governor of Bombay, that this murder of the faithful Parsi friends led the English "to a renewal of the intention to obtain for the Company the Castle of Surat and the fleet and to fix Pharis Khan in the Civil Government" who was a rival to the Nawab. Already in 1784, we find another Governor of Bombay, Rawson Boddam, referring "to the Modi's family as ancient servants to the Honourable Company and dependants on our Factory at Surat," and recommending them for every encouragement from English officials at that place. When Surat became English at the beginning of the last century and the rule of the Nawab ceased, the Modi family became the honoured subjects of the Government, and some have been in high and honoured posts. A son of the late Modi Edulji, Burjorji served for a long time in the Judicial Service dying at his post a few years ago.

In the Modi family exists the hereditary headship of the Parsi community of Surat, and consequently the family has also the names of Dawar. Dawar means, in the language of the Avesta, the sacred book of the Parsis, an administrator of Justice, and the Parsi community had in former times Dawars in various towns where they had settled. In Bombay also the Parsis had their Dawar who dispensed justice in the affairs of the community in former times. This Dawarship was in the Banaji family, and consequently a branch of this family is known to this day by the surname of Dawar to which Mr. Justice Dawar—an administrator of Justice in reality belongs. In Surat, the Dawarship was vested from very early days in the Modi's family and its head was the Dawar of Surat Parsis in every generation. The Parsis of Bombay mostly came from Surat in former days, so they may be said in a sense to be formerly under the jurisdiction or Dawarship of the Modis of Surat. In Surat they are Dawars to this day, and the late venerable Edulji was appointed by the community their Dawar in 1894 in place of his elder brother, Rustomji, who died childless at the age of 92. The British Government has always recognised the title of Dawar and formerly all correspondence relating to the Parsi of Surat was addressed to him by the authorities. Before the Parsis came to have separate laws of their own in 1865, the Modi Dawars had to adjudicate all matters relating to Parsi usage and custom, latterly associating with them a few other prominent Parsis of the city. Several instances are recorded by the Government of the Modis' help to them in dealing with the Parsis of Surat in times of trouble, either when a riot was imminent, or a strike was organised.

FIRE AT CHINCH BUNDER.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

The following official report has been submitted by Superintendent Sanderson yesterday to the Commissioner of Police regarding the Chinch Bunder fire:—

At 8 p.m., yesterday a fire broke out in a cotton godown belonging to Bhimsey Ruttonsey at Dongri Street. An alarm was raised and the fire Brigrade was quickly on the scene and got the fire under by 10 p.m. The damage to the godown which was completely gutted, is estimated at Rs. 50,000 and is insured for Rs. 35,000. The godown contained cotton belonging to four persons named Madan Bhimji, who had cotton worth Rs. 10,000 and is insured for Rs. 5,000; Raisey Oomersey, cotton worth Rs. 3,000 insured for the same amount; Nansey Damji cotton worth Rs. 20,000 insured for the same amount; Takersey Shamji had cotton worth Rs. 7,000, not insured, and Allibhai Kurrim had a quantity of paper valued at Rs. 3,500 in the godown. This too was not insured. The following members of the Bombay Fire Brigade were injured while working at the fire by the falling debris. Mr. Ratcliffe sustained a fractured collar bone and is detained in the European General Hospital; Babaji Atmaram, left knee fractured; Mahomed Yakub, right thigh fractured, and hands and feet scalded; Gunpat Dakoo right arm and forearm fractured as well as his right leg; and Jiloo Sambhaji, internal injuries about the chest. All these men are detained in the Sir J. J. Hospital. The origin of the fire has not been ascertained.

THE BERAR MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

AN extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Berar Manufacturing Company, Limited, was held at the registered office, Dalal Street, yesterday, Mr. Dadabhoy Barrister-at-law, presiding. The meeting confirmed the following resolutions which were passed at the extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders held in the same place on the 17th ult:—1. That Messrs. Jehangir Hormusjee and Coy., who have sent in their resignation of the office and appointment of Agents of this Company be not allowed to withdraw their resignation and that such resignation be and is hereby accepted as from the date of the passing of this resolution. 2. That the firm of Messrs. Kasturchand Daga & Sons, of whatsoever members such firm may from time to time be composed of be and they are hereby appointed Agents of the Company for the remainder of the period of 25 years commencing from the 28th day of May 1885 and for a further period of 25 years commencing from the expiration of the remainder of the period of 25 years for which the said firm of Jehangheer Hormusjee & Co. were appointed Agents at the same remuneration as was paid to the said firm of Messrs. Jehangheer Hormusjee and Coy. and on the same terms and conditions. 3. That the special resolution passed on the 4th day of September 1899, and confirmed on the 4th day of October 1899 whereby it was resolved that the firm of Messrs Jehangheer Hormusjee & Coy. should continue to be the Agents of this Company and which resolution was to be inserted as article III of the Articles of Association of this Company be and it is hereby revoked and cancelled. 4. That the Article III of the Articles of Association of this Company be altered by substituting the name of Messrs. Kasturchand Daga & Sons for the name of Messrs. Jehangheer Hormusjee & Coy., Bombay. Parsee inhabitants, wherever the latter name occurs in the said article. The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE LADIES' CORNER.

FUR SETS.

Some of the new stoles and muffs are eminently desirable, writes lady correspondent in Paris. The latest notion is to fashion them of marabout and crepe de Chine, the latter matching exactly the shade of the feathers. A famous milliner in the Rue de la Paix is just now having a big success with these dainty "sets," and for dressy occasions they are ideal, for in themselves they are so decorative that they assure the success of quite a simple toilette. A delicious "set"—granny muff and pelerine—was composed of taupe-coloured marabout and crepe de Chine to match. Between each row of marabout there was a box-pleated ruching of crepe, and at a little distance it was almost impossible to distinguish where the feathers began or the ruchings ended. Down the fronts of the pelerine and on the muff there were a number of loose tails, and on the muff an enormous bow of Liberty satin, the long ends fringed with tails. I have seen the same idea carried out in pale shades of grey, in dark green, in white, and in black. In the case of the grey set the bow of satin was omitted, and in its place there was a cluster of pure white camellas, set in their own darkgreen leaves. It will easily be understood that such sets as those just described should be lined either with finely-gathered crepe de Chine or—if warmth were an object—with white rabbit-skin or grey squirrel. The big muff of the moment is almost square and is frequently outlined on the outer edge with a fringe of tails. These muffs are rarely pulled in at the ends, but are allowed to preserve their pillow-like appearance.

COLLARLESS COATS.

I think I spoke in a recent letter of the absence of collars on the new fur coats, but now it is rapidly becoming the fashion to treat cloth coats and coatees in the same way. Sometimes—but not often—one sees a real "stormcollar" turned up over the ears, but the ordinary turn-over collar is no longer popular. This idea was started by one or two of the furriers who have made determined efforts to revive an interest in "Russian-blouse coats": they have "created" these most comfortable and becoming little garments in all the short-haired furs, such as astrakhan, mink, ermine, and reitschwanz—without collars or trimming of any kind; and the Russian-blouse coat is again a success. Now it is quite the fashion to make all fur coats and many cloth ones without collars. There is one thing to be said in favour of this innovation, and it is most important: the fur coat without a collar, with the fronts simply rounded off top and botton, is a much younger garment than the fur coat of last winter with its hands

GREEN ROOM GOSSIP.

EXIT *The Bondman*. Enter, for rehearsals, *Sindbad*. The vast auditorium of Drury Lane Theatre is draped from gallery to stalls with huge holland sheets which the fancy, if it it is allowed its way, pictures to have been presented to Mr. Arthur Collins by Jack the Giant-Killer, as trophies proving beyond all doubt that the courageous young nipper had really ransacked the castles of his massive enemies after slicing off their heads with a mere bodkin. It is not until within a day or two of the public opening of the pantomime season that the charwomen of Drury Lane Theatre are called in to sweep and scrub and dust, so that the rehearsals now in progress are unaccompanied by a hidden and distributed orchestra of clattering pails and swishing brushes.

What noises there are in the theatre proceed from the stage, where Mr. Walter Passmore, as himself is humming over one of the songs he is to sing as Sindbad; where Miss Marie George, the "principal girl," is pointing out to the stage-manager that if she could make her entrance at such-and-such a time instead of the other time, the effect would be far more satisfactory to all concerned; where the youthful "Willy" Clarkson, the famous perruquier, having finished his share of a whispered conversation with Comelli, the costume-designer, is spreading the wings of his frock-coat to fly away to nowhere-in-particular (so long as it was somewhere, and he goes there, like Sir Barnaby Bampton Boo, "all at a deuce of a pace"); where the machinist is examining the face of a large square of white paper (probably with a plan of some sort on it), and occasionally turning his head from it to accept or reject a suggestion furtively submitted by an assistant; and where the director of the "whole bag of tricks," Mr. Arthur Collins, as smooth and unruffled as an egg, is throwing the searchlight of his keen dark eyes over every animate and inanimate thing and smiling such an easy and comfortable smile that a stranger in the theatre might take him to be no party to the responsibilities of the production, but just a friend of the management who has come to see what a Drury Lane pantomime rehearsal is like.

I am told, as I stumble into one of the holland-covered seats in the shadowy regions of the stalls, that *Sindbad* is "shaping excellently." Were I now to the experience of Drury Lane pantomime rehearsals I would "ha' me doots"; but I am not, and I unhesitatingly agree with the provider of the information. I would not recommend a visit to a rehearsal here to the person who wants to get nothing but enjoyment out of the show in its finished state. The first night of a Drury Lane "annual" is always a night of insufferable nervousness for me, because I attend the theatre of Boxing Night with all the imperfections of early rehearsals humming in my memory. Even the seemingly consoling knowledge that it is no fault of mine if things go wrong cannot save me from the sufferings of an anxiety almost as great as that of Mr. Collins himself.

But *does* Mr. Collins feel any special anxiety on the first night of a Drury Lane pantomime? If he does he manages to hide it pretty successfully. His old "chief," the late Sir Augustus Harris, though accustomed to conducting five or six theatres at a time, never, even on Boxing Night at the Lane that as he entered the stage from the box or a private box or from the sides of the stalls, the perspiration fell from his temples like thawing snow from a window-sill, and he would clutch his closed opera hat so tightly in his hands as almost to buckle it into shapelessness. But if you watch Mr. Collins on the opening night of the season of pantomime you watch a man who appears to have come on from his club, after a leisurely-consumed dinner, to enjoy a "show" with which he has had no previous experience." Of course, I am speaking without any knowledge of the manager's demeanour behind the curtain during the changing of heavy and elaborate scenes. But however frantic he may become under those conditions, he certainly does not go in for ruffling his hair! An ebony paper-knife could not look smoother or blacker or more polished than Mr. Collin's head looks when he emerges from the iron door that separates auditorium from stage, and takes his stand down on the O. P. side of the stalls.

"It'll be all right on the night," says the comedian who is backward with the words of his song; the lady whose dress is the wrong length or the wrong shade; the man who cannot get the blue light to shine when it is the blue light, and only the blue light, that is wanted; the chorus lady with the wig that doesn't cover her own hair on her neak; and the 'cellist who has left his music in the 'bus. "It'll be all right on the night," And sure enough it is; but it is torture inconceivable for the person who has attended rehearsals, and heard that oft-repeated assurance, to see, on "the night," if it *is* "all right!" For all his reputation for severity in stage-management, the late Sir Augustus even at the final rehearsal was often most alarmingly behind with things, and I well remember how astonished I felt, and what good reason I had for feeling astonished, when his production of *Robinson Crusoe* "went without a hitch."

The dress rehearsal of that funniest of all Drury Lane pantomimes was, to my unaccustomed eyes and ears, the most unformed and incomplete dress rehearsal I think I ever witnessed. Arthur Roberts and James Fawn (the former as Mrs. Crusoe, in a large turban hat with a woolly "bobble" on it, and one of those ridiculous "dalmas" which held our women's elbows to their sides as if they had been tied up for cooking, and made them waddle along the street like the flat-footed penguin)—Arthur Roberts and James Fawn knew about as much of the words of their topical duet as I did, and were so confused over their exits and their entrances, owing to Sir Augustus having at the eleventh hour brought new "business" into the pantomime, that they were absolutely dependent upon the prompter and the stage manager for guidance. The Fairy Queen—I forget the name of the magnificent lady who played the part—waved the Grand Transformation Scene into view with nothing more magic than a gentleman's walking-stick, her wand being still with the glue-pots and the chips in the property-master's workshop; the traps and the lights and the backcloths all behaved abominably; and a good eighth of the ladies of the chorus were in ordinary dress, the delivery of their stage clothes being promised by four o'clock on the day of the production of the pantomime! Compared with these old pantomime dress rehearsals at Drury Lane, Mr. Arthur Collins's are presentations of perfect finish. Having only one theatre to conduct, he lays his plans, more carefully than did Sir Augustus Harris and it is probably because he knows he has done this that he seems to take things so coolly both at the rehearsals and at the first public performance of the greatest pantomime in the world.

A stranger within the doors of Drury Lane Theatre at pantomime rehearsal time will be impressed with one thing very strongly—the quickness of the children to pick up a new movement of drill or a new step of a dance that the grown-ups of the corps de ballet take hours to grasp. John D'Auban and his son, who have for so long conducted the dancing department of the Drury Lane "annual," will tell you that they have greater difficulty in rehearsing an adult in a measure they have danced the previous year than in teaching a perfectly new step to a child who has, like the young lady in Mr. Arthur Roberts's old musical comedy song, "Never been in pantomime before." I heard this years ago from John D'Auban, when he had good occasion for imparting the news to me (for he was teaching me, among other amateurs, to dance a minuet for performance in the presence of the King and Queen—(then the Prince and Princess of Wales); and I have observed it since with my own eyes, and heard it again from that most accomplished and most popular of pantomime-writers, Mr, J, Hickory Wood.

Here is an interesting extract from a letter about pantomime children I have received from the writer of *Sindbad*: "The imitative powers of pantomime children," says Mr. Hickory Wood, "are simply marvellous. It is no uncommon thing to see an actor, with whom dancing is not a strong point, painfully and laboriously endeavouring to acquire some particular step he is being taught, while immediately behind him are a score of oddly attired mites executing the measure with ease and precision, having picked it up from the first without the slightest difficulty, merely through watching the instructor second-hand. The children are rarely late at rehearsal. Indeed, they may be said to be always there when wanted, and too frequently very much there when not wanted. After their rehearsal they are dismissed and told to go home and they make a great pretence at hustling off; but in reality there is a deal of lingering, and finally they retire unostentatiously into a dark corner of the pit, and from there watch the principals rehearse their parts.

"One of the comedians does or says something funny, and a shriek of childish laughter from this forgotten quarter echoes over the theatre and betrays them. Then they are chased out of the place, and the door is shut upon them; but they manage somehow to get in again and surreptitiously to settle down in a new hiding-place where they can see all that is going on without being themselves 'discovered.' So long as anybody is in the house doing anything at all, no matter whether he be singing, dancing, painting scenery, or sawing wood, it is perfectly safe to bet that the children are somewhere in the building, watching with keen receptive eyes and listening with gramophonic ears. Thus it comes about that long before the curtain rises on Boxing Night the majority, if not the whole of them, know every word that is spoken, every note that is sung, every step that is danced, and could practically reproduce the entire show." Yet let it not be forgotten that these children are untiringly watched over by the head mistress of the Drury Lane schools, Miss Harper, and her numerous kindly assistants, and that, in many a case that could be moralised upon if space permitted, they are safer in their employment at Drury Lane than in their idleness at

BY THE WAY.

BRUNETIERE AND ZOLA.

It was by attacking Zola that M. Brunetiere, whose death we have recorded, first achieved wide notoriety. He wrote a strong article against the "roman naturaliste," and he was elected to the Academy, membership of which Zola had sought in vain. The students, who preferred Zola's novels to M. Brunetiere's criticism, considered that it was time to demonstrate, and they went to the Sorbonne, resolved to prevent the lecturer from being heard. M. Brunetiere, however, had also his supporters among the pupils at the Ecole Normale; and these also presented themselves at the lecture. When the students began to "chahuter," the "normaliens" fell upon them with big sticks, and were victorious in the *melee* that ensued. It was one of those little fracas that are most characteristic of student life in the Latin Quarter.

THE FIRST TOURIST AT ZERMATT.

Mr. Coolidge has unearthed, and publishes in the *Alpine Journal*, an account of a visit earlier than any hitherto known to the head of the Zermatt Valley. It was published, in the form of two letters to the editor, in the *Journal de Paris*, in May 1777, and represents the region as a happy spot in which the Golden Age still flourished. "Sirs," the writer begins, "the golden age and the reign of Astraea—these are old fables to which people will only listen when they are embellished with the charms of poetry; but if anybody wants to see the real thing he has only to look for it in Switzerland, in a valley named Praborgne, or in German Zermatt." And he proceeds to say that in this valley there are neither rich nor poor, and no notaries or public prosecutors, seeing that nobody can either read or write and that every man's word is his bond.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN GERMANY.

France has practically abolished capital punishment but Germany maintains the good old mediæval system of the headsman with his block and axe. Two days ago Hennig, the famous murderer, whose sensational escape from the police some eighteen months ago made him a sort of German Jack Sheppard, was, a correspondent of the *Glasgow Herald* writes, executed at Plotzensee Prison. The ceremony is just as it was in the Middle Ages. A bench is erected, draped in black, on which the judge who condemned the prisoner must sit. Alongside him sits the Public Prosecutor, with the Clerk of the Court. Opposite them are the block and headsman, the old fashioned block of 300 years ago, with the equally mediæval axe.

SAAS.

The same paper contains an account of the earliest known visit of a tourist to Saas. The tourist in question was Abraham Thomas, of a peasant family of "gardes forestiers," who began his career as a botanist by collecting plants for the great Albert von Haller, who lodged in his father's house at the time when he was Director of the Salt Mines of the District of Aigle. Haller sent him at the age of eighteen, to botanise on the Furka, and he subsequently made his living by collecting plants, drying them and selling them. Haller mentions his services with commendation in one of his prefaces, and Murith, in his "Guide to the Valais" published in 1810, credits him with having "discovered" Saas. He was there in July 1795, and describes the valley in a letter to Murith. He appears to have proceeded as far as the top of the Monte Moro, which he calls the Montmort.

AS IN THE "GOOD OLD DAYS."

When the prisoner is brought in the *Staats Anwalt* or Public Prosecutor, reads the judgment condemning him to death, plus the Imperial decree refusing grace and ordering the law to take its course. This being done, the judge orders the executioner to carry out his dread functions, and the prisoner is made to kneel down, place his head on the block, and it is then chopped off just as in the good old days. Some years ago the public executioner, a man named Krantz, struck and killed one of his aides. He was brought before the Assize Courts, but the lo-kal-minded German jury declared that a man who had been legally authorised to chop off the heads of his fellow-men for a score of years had inevitably so lost the respect for human life that he could not be held responsible for having caused the death of a fellow-citizen, and he was acquitted.

QUEEN VICTORIA AND THE TELEPHONE.

An amusing story in connexion with the introduction of the telephone is told in *Great Thoughts*, in an article on Sir William Preece, lately chief electrician of the General Post Office. The new method of communication was getting into order for the first time, and, Queen Victoria having expressed a desire to test its capabilities, arrangements were made whereby Osborne, Portsmouth, and London were united by telephonic connexion. That her Majesty might have a good opportunity of hearing the telephone under favourable conditions, it was arranged that a band should play in London at nine o'clock. Some slight accident, however, occurred to the Osborne section of the wire, and the Queen's coming was delayed. The musicians, after having played for some time, were dismissed.

"VERY BADLY PLAYED."

Shortly after, great consternation was caused by the receipt of a wire from Osborne stating that the Queen had arrived and was ready to hear the music. What was to be done? The band had departed, and to get another in decent time was well-nigh impossible. Not to be beaten, the gentleman in charge decided there and then to see what he could do in the way of a band, and hummed "God Save the Queen" through the telephone. He then inquired if her Majesty recognised the tune. "Yes," was the reply; "it was the National Anthem, but very badly played!" Mr. Preece, as he then was, was the "band," which played so badly on that occasion.

THE WOMAN IN ART.

The results of the prize-giving at the Royal Academy will be noted with satisfaction by those who claim for women an intellectual equality with men. Until three years ago the women in the schools of the Royal Academy did not compete on level terms with the men, and two or three special prizes were reserved for the so-called weaker sex. But women regarded the winning of these prizes as no honour, and there was general satisfaction when, in 1903, the revision of the school laws placed the male and female student on exactly similar terms, so far as the competitions for drawing, painting, and modelling were concerned. For the first time at the Royal Academy schools the women were given proper opportunities for studying from the undraped figure, the foundation of all good work in art.

A BRILLIANT YEAR.

Last year the women showed their appreciation of this privilege by carrying off from the men the first honours for drawing from the nude, and this year they have gone a step farther by winning both the medals for painting from the undraped figure. In addition, the women have gained this year the first award for landscape painting, the Armitage Prize for figure design in monochrome, the £30 prize for modelled figure design, the cartoon prize, and the prize for the best model of a bust. They are much stronger this year than the men in painting and modelling, and one of them should be able in 1907 to carry off the great biennial gold medal for painting and the £200 prize that accompanies it.

MR. KIPLING'S SMUGGLER'S SONG.

[*The Spectator.*]

"If you wake at midnight, and hear a horse's feet,
Don't go drawing back the blind, or looking in the street,
Them that asks no questions, isn't told a lie.
Watch the wall, my darling, while the gentlemen go by!

Five and twenty ponies,
Trotting through the dark—
Brandy for the Parson,
'Baccy for the Clerk;
Laces for a lady; letters for a spy,
And watch the wall, my darling, while the gentlemen go by!

Running round the wood-lamp if you chance to find
Little barrels, roped and tarred all full of brandy-wine;
Don't you shout to come and look, nor take 'em for your play;
Put the bolshwood back again,—and they'll be gone next day;

If you see the stableyard setting open wide;
If you see a tired horse lying down inside;
If your mother mends a coat cut about and tore;
If the lining's wet and warm—don't you ask no more!

If you meet King George's men, dressed in blue and red,
You be careful what you say, and mindful what is said.
If they call you 'pretty maid,' and chuck you neath the chin,
Don't you tell where no one is, nor yet where no one's been!

Knocks and footsteps round the house—whistles after dark—
You're no call for running out till the house-dogs bark.
'Trusty's here, and 'Pincher's' here, and see how dumb they lie—
They don't fret to follow when the gentlemen go by!

If you do as you've been told, 'likely there's a chance,
You'll be give a dainty doll, all the way from France,
With a cap of Valenciennes, and a velvet hood—
A present from the Gentlemen, along o' being good!

Five and twenty ponies,
Trotting through the dark—
Brandy for the Parson,
'Baccy for the Clerk.

Them that asks no questions isn't told a lie—
Watch the wall, my darling, while gentlemen go by!"

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(Sd.) H. FARRELL, Telegraph Master.

Further information, most useful, is contained in a treatise on Electricity which I have published, a copy of which I shall be pleased to send Free and Post Paid to those who will write or send a Post Card to

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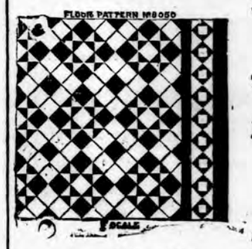

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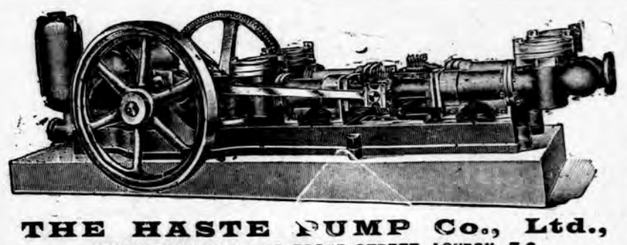

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